276

EMIGRATION.

COPIES

OF

REPORTS

MADE TO THE GOVERNORS AND COUNCILS

OF

CANADA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND NEW SOUTH WALES,

BY

THE EMIGRATION AGENTS OF THOSE COLONIES.

Ordered to be printed 30th March 1848.

(71.)

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Colonial Office, Downing Street,
24th March 1843.

COPIES OF REPORTS, &c.

CANADA.

CANADA.
No. 1.
Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

No. 1.

(No. 16.)

EXTRACTS of a DESPATCH from Governor the Right Honourable Sir CHARLES BAGOT, G.C.B., to Lord STANLEY.

Government House, Kingston, 26th January 1843.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit the Annual Report of the Chief Agent of Emigration for the past year, together with the Appendix thereto. (A.) (B.)

As these documents only reached me yesterday, I am unable to offer any observations upon the general subjects to which they relate.

As a valuable appendix to these Reports, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a communication from Mr. Hawke, which describes the mode of conducting the business of his agency, and furnishes valuable information with regard to the expense of forwarding emigrants. (C.)

I further add the Report of the Medical Superintendent at the Grosse Isle quarantine station, with Mr. Buchanan's Report thereupon, which will complete the view of the emigration transactions of last season. (D.) (E.)

Enclosures in No. 1.

(A.)

Encl. (A.) in No. 1.

Office of Her Majesty's Chief Agent for the Superintendence of Emigration to Canada, Quebec, 31st December 1842.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the following Report of the emigration to this province during the season of 1842.

It is gratifying to me to be enabled to state, that the expectations which, at the date of the last similar report made to your Excellency, I had found reason to form, have been very fully realised; and that the number of emigrants from the United Kingdom to Canada in the year 1842 has exceeded that of any previous year, with the exception, only, of the seasons of 1831 and 1832.

On reference to Paper No. 1. of the Appendix to this Report, it will be found that the total number of emigrants landed at this port during the past season is 44,374, 614 of them coming within the description of cabin passengers. A comparison of this aggregate with that shown by the returns of the year 1841 will present an increase in favour of the past season, amounting to 16,288 persons. The paper here referred to presents a tabular view of the immigration of the season, divided into weekly periods. It distinguishes the adults, the children between 14 and 7 years of age, and those under seven, as well as the males and females; and it shows, further, the proportion of the whole who were ascertained to have received parochial or other assistance, in aid of their removal from the United Kingdom to this country.

Paper No. 2. of the Appendix is an abstract of the records of this department, and shows the total number of emigrant vessels arrived, with an average of their passages from port to port—the number of steerage passengers embarked—the deaths in course of the passage, and in quarantine—and the number landed; distinguishing, in every case, the adult persons, the children between 14 and 7, and those under seven years old; and also the male from the female adults and children.

Paper No. 3. furnishes a list of the sea ports in the United Kingdom, and the Lower Provinces whence the immigrants were received, showing at the same time the number embarked at these ports severally, and distinguishing the cabin from the steerage passengers. This abstract presents the aggregate number of emigrants: from England, 12,191; Ireland, 25,532; Scotland, 6,095; and from the Lower Ports, 556.

CANADA.

No. 1.

Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (A.) in No. 1.

Paper No. 4. is a comparative statement of the emigration into this province from the year 1829 to 1842, both inclusive. The total number arrived within this period of 14 years is 366,181; of whom had sailed—

From ports of England and Wales - - - - -	96,324
Ireland - - - - - -	222,415
Scotland - - - - - -	42,424
Nova Scotia and ports on the Continent of Europe	5,018
	366,181

I am under the necessity of referring to a disaster attending the emigration of the early part of the season; but it is subject of sincere gratification to me that the year has closed without loss of life by shipwreck, or other casualty, connected with the voyage from Europe.

By the violence of a gale and snow-storm, which occurred when they had reached the entrance of the St. Lawrence, on the night of 9th-10th May, two vessels bound for Quebec were stranded, and their passengers placed in extreme danger. The ship Kent, Gardiner, master, was driven ashore at Seven Island Bay, situate about 300 miles below this port, and the passengers, 54 in number, were rescued only, after some lapse of time, through the humanity of the master, Simpson, of the ship Llan Rumney, of Hull; by this vessel, however, they and their effects, the greater part of which were recovered, were brought in safety to this port. The other vessel lost was the ship Jane Black, Gorman, master, from Limerick, which was thrown on the rocks off Cap des Monts, at a distance of 250 miles from Quebec. The number of passengers on board of this ship at the time of her being wrecked was 417; but although the loss of a considerable portion of their luggage was entailed upon these unfortunate people by the casualty, their lives were preserved; they were landed and placed under temporary shelter, and eventually conveyed to their destination by a steamer despatched under my direction for this purpose. The peculiar circumstances attending the wreck of this vessel, and the measures which I felt it my duty to adopt for meeting the contingency, are detailed in my Report to the Chief Secretary, a copy of which will be seen in Paper No. 10., at page 23. of the Appendix.

Those were the only cases which occurred during the season to the hazard of human life on the voyage by sea between Europe and this port; but I regret to be compelled to report one of the most extensively fatal accidents which have ever taken place since the introduction of steam navigation on the inland waters of the province; I allude to the case of the bursting of the engine boiler of the steamer Shamrock, on her passage between Montreal and Kingston, and at the time of her traversing Lake St. Louis. The Shamrock had on board at the time upwards of 120 passengers, chiefly English emigrants, with their luggage, and the violence of the explosion was such as to involve the death of 47 of these unfortunate people and of two of the crew; of the remaining passengers many were seriously injured, and all lost nearly their entire property by the subsequent sinking of the vessel. The bodies of those killed were eventually recovered and decently interred; the property found on them, which, in some instances, amounted to a considerable sum, being duly taken charge of by the coroner. Every aid and attention also were afforded by the owners of the vessel to those who had been personally injured or subjected to loss of property, and charitable contributions were readily procured for the relief of those rendered destitute.

Until within a very short period of the present time there had been in employment on the St. Lawrence and its chain of lakes but few steam vessels constructed on the high-pressure principle; and to this circumstance it may be owing that the country has had room to congratulate itself on the occurrence of so comparatively small a number of casualties, similar to that of the Shamrock's explosion. The horror which was produced by this accident in all minds brought to reflect on its circumstances, has given rise to a general disposition to see steam-engines of all descriptions, but particularly those worked under high pressure, in the propelling of passenger vessels, placed under supervision, and subjected to the regulations that would seem requisite to remove the risk of future disaster, whether from insufficient construction, or from improper management; and I have every reason to hope, that with the approval of your Excellency's government, the necessary legislative measures to this end will be duly considered and enacted.

It is gratifying to me to be enabled to report, that the general health of the immigrants of the past year has been comparatively lightly affected by their sea voyage and change of climate. Several cases of severe sickness on the voyage have occurred, and, as I have had occasion fully to detail, in my weekly reports, one or two instances of extensive mortality. On the other hand, the favourable passages which a large proportion of the passenger-vessels experienced, and particularly those which arrived in the early part of July, secured to the passengers a great share of comfort and convenience, and an almost complete exemption from disease. The deaths at sea in the course of the season have amounted to 264; those in quarantine to 54; and the number of those which occurred amongst immigrant patients, admitted into the Marine Hospital of this city, within a short period of their arrival in the country, as will appear on reference to Paper No. 5. of the Appendix, amounted to 32, making a total of 350.

Compared with the aggregate emigration of the season, the proportion of deaths will appear to equal 0.78, or somewhat more than 3-fourths per 100 souls embarked. The mortality occurring amongst emigrants, and particularly that suffered in the course of their

passage, is found, from the returns to which I have already had occasion to refer, to affect, almost exclusively, young children and infants. That it must remain a difficult task to reduce materially the proportion of infant deaths in the period of the emigrants' outset, may be admitted; but I have every confidence that the operation of the New Passenger Act will, in some degree at least, have this result. Every regulation tending to secure the parent from privation, anxiety, or discomfort, must bear upon the young child, and most directly upon the infant; and it may not be unreasonable to hope, therefore, that the next year's returns will show an improvement under this point of view; permitting comparison with those manifest ameliorations in every other respect which have been effected through legislative interposition, and the systematic attention to which emigration from the United Kingdom is now subject.

The periodical report of the medical superintendent of the quarantine establishment at Grosse Isle has been rendered to your Excellency in the most detailed form; and a copy has been furnished to me also by Dr. Douglas, under instructions from the Chief Secretary. This document shows that the medical treatment of the immigrants, and the general management of the institution, have been productive of the most satisfactory results. Of a total number of 488 persons admitted in the course of the season into the hospital wards, of whom 340 were cases of fever and 56 of small-pox, there were discharged, cured or convalescent, 434; the deaths, compared with the admissions, being, consequently, 11 per cent. only. Compared with the total number of immigrants arrived in the course of the season, this proportion of deaths amounts to 0.12, or considerably less than 1-ninth per cent., showing an improvement in the results of the hospital treatment, even over the year 1841, and admitting a most favourable comparison with every previous season. At the Marine Hospital the patients admitted have been 312, of whom the cured and convalescent amounted to 280; the deaths being as 10.25 to 100. By a reference to Dr. Douglas's abstract of admissions to hospital at Grosse Isle, appended to his report, it will be found that the proportion of cases comprehended within the various types of fever has been very large, including almost all the cases of disease affecting adult persons.

Amongst children, small-pox and measles appear to have been the most extensively active forms of disease; and these had, doubtless, been the chief causes of the numerous deaths which occurred, on the sea voyage, in this class of the immigration. More than one creditable statement has been made to me to the effect that the introduction of cases of evident small-pox has taken place on board passenger-ships at the time of embarkation, with the almost certain prospect of general contagion. Indeed, the frequent recurrence of cases of this kind is notorious; and I am led, therefore, to venture to suggest to your Excellency's government, whether or not some provision for a medical inspection of steerage passengers, at least as far as the chief ports of embarkation are concerned, might not be made, with a prospect of the prevention of contagious disease in that most fatal field for its action, the crowded emigrant vessel.

The number of cases of infringement of the law by masters of emigrant vessels which have occurred in the course of the season, show that the complete abatement of the evils against which the Imperial Acts for the protection of passengers were framed, was not to be effected unless by the most persevering enforcement of these enactments. For although in some of the cases in which it has become my duty to direct prosecution there may have appeared room to admit ignorance of the law as an excuse for the offence, in by far the larger proportion of instances, I have had no reason to doubt that a deliberate consideration of the chances of gain, and the risks of penalty, has resulted in the attempt to evade the law, and set its supporters at defiance. With this experience, I am forced to a conviction of the necessity of permitting no future infringement of the regulations for the protection of the emigrant to pass unaccompanied by the infliction of the severest penalty upon his oppressor.

The collector of customs at this port has been under the necessity of enforcing the penalty in no less than seven cases of vessels found to have carried a number of passengers exceeding the amount permitted by the law, in proportion to their tonnage, The cases also in which it has become my duty to institute prosecutions for infringement of the Passenger Act, have been, I regret to say, much more numerous than in former years. In consequence of instructions, received through the Chief Secretary, in the latter part of June last, to the effect that the enactments regulating the superficial space between decks of vessels conveying emigrants should be strictly enforced, I lodged in the hands of the Crown law officers, at different times, the information necessary for founding proceedings against the following vessels; viz.

The Mary	- - -	from Liverpool.
Jane Melvaine	-	,, Londonderry.
Thomas & Hannah		,, Ditto.
Bruce	- - -	,, Westport.
Lively	- - -	,, Galway.
Joseph Green	-	,, Thurso.
Exile	- - -	,, Belfast.
Springhill	- -	,, Donegal.
Dumfriesshire	-	,, Belfast.
Independence	-	,, Ditto.
Lord Seaton	-	,, Sligo.
Dromahair	- -	,, Ditto.

 The

CANADA.

No. 1.
Sir C. Bagot
to
Lord Stanley,
26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (A.) in No. 1.

The masters of eight of these vessels were severally convicted in the penalty of 20*l.* sterling. The cases in which the last four enumerated in the list are involved, owing to legal difficulties, encountered in their prosecution, and which have been already fully reported to your Excellency, remain yet undecided.

The masters of the brigs Tottenham and Leo, the former from Ross, the latter from Wexford, I procured to be fined under the provincial enactment, which renders it penal in the master of the vessel to remove the berthing of his passengers previously to arrival in port; and under the same enactment, ——, master of the ship Mountaineer, from Liverpool, was, on prosecution, fined in the sum of 5*s.* currency in each of 26 cases of removal of the berthing of passengers in his vessel, the amount of these penalties has been duly accounted for to the collector of Her Majesty's customs at this port. The master of the Mountaineer was further prosecuted, upon the charges of having issued impure and unwholesome water to his passengers, and of having exacted exorbitant prices for the provisions sold by him to them in the course of the voyage; and the court, upon the evidence adduced, thought fit to award penalties for each infraction of the law. The Mountaineer was reported by me on the 27th August as having landed her large number of passengers in the worst condition, from the joint effects of disease and scarcity of food. Her passage had extended to 68 days; and 32 deaths had occurred among 511 souls embarked on board of her. The brig Mary, ——, master, from Liverpool, also was reported by me on the 2d July, as having arrived with 213 passengers in the most distressed state of disease and suffering. Five deaths had occurred previously to her arrival at the quarantine station, and two more immediately after; while 56 cases of typhus required hospital treatment. The medical superintendent at Grosse Isle has, in his report, fully detailed the condition of these vessels on their arrival there, and exposed the gross negligence by which disaster, so extensive as these cases exhibit, was permitted. There have been, I regret to say, frequent instances of neglect on the part of ship-masters towards their passengers. It is a satisfaction to me, however, to be enabled to report these two vessels only as cases of an aggravated nature; very generally the passenger-ships exhibit improvement in their management; and numerous instances of considerate attention and humane conduct in their commanders have come under my immediate observation.

Among the cases of protection afforded by the department in my charge to immigrants subjected to wrong on the part of the owners of passenger ships, I have particularly to notice that of the brig Lively, from Galway, with 192 passengers. These people had engaged their passages to St. John's, New Brunswick, and were brought to this port in open violation of their agreement. Immediately on obtaining a knowledge of the circumstances, and ascertaining the correctness of the statements of those interested, I caused the institution of proceedings against the vessel; and I am required in justice to add, that the master, who, it appeared, had been appointed to the command within a few days only of her sailing, and who was consequently not involved in the imposition, showed immediate willingness to indemnify those of the passengers who were contented to remain at this port, and every alacrity in the procuring of means of conveyance for those persevering in their original intention. I am happy to be enabled to say, that although cases of this description of fraud are known to have occurred numerously in former years, the penalties to which the parties concerned have been with some difficulty made liable have had the effect of nearly altogether deterring such attempts; the instance of the Lively being the only one to which I have now to allude. The particulars of this case will be found in detail with a copy of the affidavits upon which I became required to take proceedings, in Paper No. 11., page 24 of the Appendix.

The general circumstances of a very considerable portion of the immigrants of the season may be reported to have been such as to secure them from all distress on their passage to this port, as well as from all difficulty in their progress hence to their several places of destination. Indeed a reference to the details comprehended in the weekly reports, which I have had the honour, from time to time, to submit for your Excellency's information, will show that many persons of extensive property have reached the country, with the intention of becoming settlers or of establishing themselves in trade. The passengers by the Blonde and Faronia from Glasgow, the Marquis Wellesley from Dublin, some of those by the Catharine and the Minstrel from Liverpool, the Chieftain from Larne, the Jane Duffis and Gazelle from Donegal, brought with them very considerable sums of money, as capital for investment, chiefly in land; and I became aware, in the course of the season, of numerous instances of the arrival of families in the possession of extensive wealth. A still larger class of this year's immigration has consisted in respectable yeomen and mechanics, having sums of money in their hands, varying from 20*l.* to 200*l.* sterling; and with these may be properly included the higher description of agricultural labourers, whose frugality had saved, or whose good conduct and character had procured as aid, sums amply sufficient to meet the necessities arising in the course of their progress, either to land or situations of permanent employment. But under the circumstances of a greatly extended immigration, induced, or compelled, by extreme distress affecting the lower grades of operatives, in almost every description of manufacture in the United Kingdom, it was to be anticipated that poverty would accompany a large proportion of those arriving in Canada. A comparatively small expense is involved in the removal of a family from a British port to the shores of the St. Lawrence; and the facilities in the provision of passages, and for embarkation, which the interest of the owners and charterers of shipping employed in the trade of this country leads them to offer, even to the least intelligent, have, for many years past, led to Canada, rather than any other colony of the empire, a great share of the most destitute of those

those whose thoughts tend towards emigration. So long as similar causes shall operate, the same result must be experienced; and your Excellency is therefore, doubtless, prepared to learn, that although the province has been the resort in the course of the past season of such a number of immigrants of property and superior intelligence as considerably to exceed the accessions of the previous year, the increased number which the returns now transmitted show, as the aggregate arrivals, may be assumed to arise, chiefly, if not altogether, from an increase in the numbers of the poorest and most destitute classes. It is on this description of persons that deception may be most easily practised previously to their embarkation; and it is these, who from their deficient education, and careless habits, may be permitted, by negligent superintendence, to suffer the most fatally on their voyage. Their limited means rarely extend to the provision of all that their immigration demands, and it is to them, and to their wants, therefore, that attention is most frequently required to be paid, as well on their landing at this port, as in their attempts to reach sources of permanent subsistence. I regret to say, that of the poorer classes of the year's immigration, a small proportion only have been exempt from suffering and privation on their voyage; and I have reason to know that it has been only through the assistance afforded them by this department, under your Excellency's instructions, that continued distress and discouragement have been prevented from attending their course subsequently to arrival within the province.

The passengers by the ships Bowling, Wexford, Harper, and Renfrewshire, from Glasgow, 946 in number, were of the class of manufacturing operatives, and having embarked under circumstances of extreme poverty, had probably evaded the law prescribing the stock of provisions which shall be taken on board for the Quebec voyage; for before the expiration of their passage, in no case exceeding 58 days, they were already under privation from the exhaustion of their stores; and on arrival here it became necessary to supply them with food for their immediate support. The brig Percival, from Cork, occupied only 55 days on the voyage to Quebec, yet the stores of the passengers, 149 in number, had been some time before wholly exhausted, and the vessel compelled to put into Sydney, Cape Breton, for a renewed supply.

The passengers by the Compton, from Liverpool, in a passage of 68 days, and the Ayrshire, from Newry and Dublin, in 51 days, were likewise short of provisions previously to arrival; and it is probable that in many cases which, from the natural desire of the parties to conceal their own evasion of the law or their want of economy, did not come so plainly before me, there had been short supplies laid in for the voyage, and consequent exposure to distress. The operation of the New Passenger Act of the Imperial Legislature, I have every confidence will wholly remove the possibility of a recurrence of similar cases; for the clause which enacts that the ship shall provide and issue a supply of bread, or its substitutes (sufficient alone to obviate want), promises to be found capable of enforcement by the emigration agents at the ports of embarkation, without the practical difficulties that must have been attendant on every attempt to carry out the terms of the former law.

Paper No. 8. of the Appendix affords an abstract return of the voyages performed by the passenger-ships which have arrived from British and Irish ports, in the St. Lawrence, in the course of the season. It is divided into semi-monthly periods, which very plainly show shorter averages for the early portion of the season than for the months of July and August. The vessels sailing after this latter period appear to have had passages equal to those of the spring; but as the autumn is the least favourable time of the year for the arrival of the immigrant on these shores, whether his employment or his health be the subject considered, it is between the spring and the summer passages that the comparison remains to be drawn; and there is evidence in this table to show that the months of April and May are those in the course of which the departure of the emigrant ought by all means to take place.

The statement which will be found in Paper No. 6., at page 12 of the Appendix, is a compilation of the returns that I have received throughout the season, from Mr. Hawke, chief agent for Canada West, as well as the local agents of the department in both sections of the province, of the distribution of the emigrants of the year. It is unnecessary for me to remark, in reference to this statement, that the means of being strictly accurate have not existed within my reach; I may, however, add, that I have no reason to doubt the general correctness of all the returns on which it is founded, or the justness of the result which it presents.

The great body of the immigrants, it is gratifying to find, have remained inhabitants of the province, and settled in the Western Section; the number of those ascertained to have resorted to the United States, together with an addition to cover probable defect in the return, being not more than 2,500. On the other hand, although the immigration which this country has received, through the United States, is supposed by Mr. Hawke (see page 25 of the Appendix,) to be about 6,000 souls, I have grounds for believing that taking the entire province into view, it has been considerably more extensive, and that the total accession to the population of Canada, in the course of the year, must have been at least 50,000.

This influx, consisting as I have already had occasion to show, in great proportion of a labouring class, forced by want of resources to seek early employment, may be supposed to have produced material effects in over-supplying the demand for labour. This occurred particularly at the various points on the great line of water communication at which the immigrants necessarily land and take up their temporary abode. The rates of wages had previously tended towards depression, from the severe check which all commercial operations

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tions had recently received; and the public works of the province were, at an early period, fully supplied with experienced Old-country labourers coming from the United States.

When the prospect of extensive employment, therefore, which had been held forth in the prosecution of the works of the St. Lawrence Canal, and other provincial undertakings, was, from this circumstance, in great part removed, there was room to apprehend that some distress might be experienced by the immigrants newly arrived by the route of Quebec. This may have been the case to a small extent; but although the wages of ordinary labourers have suffered a reduction of one-fifth to two-fifths of their previous average amount; and although some of the immigrants of the season may have remained for a considerable period unemployed, the very great abundance of provisions and necessaries of all kinds, and the unprecedently low prices which they have borne in every part of the province, have maintained the employed in circumstances quite equal to those of former years, affording superior wages, and very generally relieved those not supplied with situations of profit, from every apprehension of want. It is to the reduction experienced in the labourer's demands, and the moderate rates of all agricultural produce also, that I attribute the circumstance of comparatively few existing cases of distress among emigrants, even at the present trying time of the year.

From reports which reach me from all parts of the province, I have reason to think that few of the industriously disposed of the population remain without employment; and that none who have proceeded to the country districts can want the means of support.

Paper No. 7. of the Appendix contains an abstract of my weekly reports, made up with a view to show the number of immigrants whose removal to this country has taken place through the intervention of parish authorities in England, or by the aid of landlords and charitable societies in Ireland and Scotland. Of these 831 persons, as shown by the abstract, received, under my inspection, the amount of aid promised to be furnished them on landing in this country, viz. 1*l.* sterling for each adult, and for children in proportion. The remainder of the families brought within this classification appeared, to the extent of the greater number, to have received, on departure from Great Britain, some assistance in addition to the cost of their passage and provisions. But the best information I could obtain left it doubtful whether there were not many who had received nothing beyond the means of transport to this place. The Scottish immigrants included in the list, are those already alluded to as constituting two or three societies for the purpose of mutual relief. These societies had received some aid from charitably disposed persons in Scotland; yet with this and their joint means, the members were landed under circumstances of much distress; and having literally nothing that could be converted into means of support, were necessarily early claimants for relief from this department. I may refer, for a detailed account of the situation of these parties severally, at the time of their arrival, to the weekly reports furnished throughout the season.

The provincial law imposing a duty of 5*s.* currency on each adult immigrant arriving in this province, came into force on the 1st March last. The amount received under this enactment, at the ports of Montreal and Quebec, appears from the returns of the customs department, to have been 8,556*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* Halifax currency.

The grant of the Imperial Legislature, made in the course of its last Session, for the purpose of affording relief to destitute immigrants on arrival in this country, was 5,000*l.* sterling; and a further appropriation, by the same authority, has made available, for meeting the expenses of the agencies of the emigrant department, a sum of 1,500*l.* sterling. These together constitute a sum of 7,222*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* Halifax currency, and make the total fund available for the purpose of immigrant superintendence and assistance, in 1842, 15,789*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* Halifax currency.

The arrangement which your Excellency, on the 11th April last, was pleased to direct should be carried into effect respecting the management of the accounts of the emigration department, and their control by the chief agent, enables me to state, in a condensed form, the result of the operations of the year throughout the entire province, and to bring into one view the total expenses that have been incurred.

The expenditure involved in the assistance, through donations of provisions and necessaries, and the transport inland of the more destitute classes of the year's immigration, has amounted, in the aggregate, to 11,310*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* currency. This sum, however, includes also all the expenses of the medical care of such immigrants as may have required it in every part of the province, exclusive of Quebec. The amount expended in the purchase of provisions supplied at all the points at which agencies exist, is 1,725*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*; the amount paid for transport, chiefly on the main line of interior communication, has been 8,434*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*; and the charges for medical assistance have been 1,151*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

In the course of the past season have been erected various buildings for the lodging of newly-arrived immigrants, and as hospitals for the sick, at Montreal, Kingston, and Toronto, involving a contingent expense amounting to 782*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*; and lastly, there has been paid, as salaries and contingent disbursements of the chief agent, and agents of the department at Kingston, Montreal, Toronto, Bytown, Hamilton, Port St. Francis, and Cobourg, a total of 1,671*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* The entire expenditure of the department, for the year 1842, having been 13,764*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* Halifax currency.

When the circumstances detailed in my weekly reports, as affecting the condition of the immigrants of the year, and the representations contained in the former part of this report, shall be taken into due consideration, I feel assured there will be found ample justification of this increased expenditure.

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Not only has the immigration of the present exceeded that of the past season by upwards of one-half, but the number of cases in which the agents of the department have been compelled to admit claims for relief, has extended very much beyond the proportion which all former experience could have anticipated.

There have been forwarded from this port to Montreal, and the intermediate places of debarkation, at the charge of the emigrant fund, 9,302 persons; 13,280 have been furnished with passages upwards, from Montreal to Bytown and Kingston; 8,766 from Kingston to Toronto, Hamilton, and other places on Lake Ontario; while 6,837 have been conveyed from one intermediate point to another; upwards of 1,200 persons have received the advantage of medical attendance at the different agencies; and lastly, the aggregate of the applications for relief from temporary distress, admitted by the agents of the department within their several districts, are found to amount to 46,910.

Following an abstract of the expenditure of the past year, I may properly offer such suggestions as I may have it in my power to furnish, with reference to the prospects of the ensuing season's immigration, and the contingencies connected with it, against which it appears necessary to provide.

The state of the lower classes of the population of the United Kingdom has continued to be exceedingly depressed; and although at the present moment somewhat more extensive employment may be offered them, a general redundancy of labour seems to afford to the most industriously disposed operatives, slight prospects only of future permanent improvement in their condition. The consequence will doubtless be a continued universal disposition to emigrate; and when it is reflected that this colony has been widely published as the field of certain success in settlement, and that its circumstances render it easily and inexpensively accessible, there is no reason to doubt that an extensive immigration of the poorer and worst provided classes will take place in the ensuing season. The enactments of the new Passenger Bill, inasmuch as they tend in some degree to increase the expense of the outward passage, and the depression in the timber trade of this country, which threatens still further to reduce the number of vessels resorting to the port of Quebec, may be found to interrupt the plans of those whose means are of the most limited extent; but, on the other hand, the discouragement which is offered to emigration to the United States, will turn additional numbers towards this country; and although the charge for passage may become slightly increased, the low price of every description of provision will probably make the total expense of removal no greater than it has been hitherto.

I am led, therefore, to anticipate that the next season's immigration will equal or exceed that of the last; and that the lower and more destitute class will bear even a larger proportion to the whole.

As it is this description of persons that entail the largest amount of expenditure in their assistance, and as I am unable at present to discover room for the practice of stricter economy in the application of the relief fund to this purpose, the estimate of the amount likely to be required in the course of the ensuing year, under arrangements similar to those hitherto in force, must be based, I conceive, upon the past season's expenditure: this amounted to 13,764*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*; and being lessened by the amount of disbursement incurred in the employment of a steamer, in the case of the wreck of a passenger-ship (a contingency which, from the circumstance of a properly constructed sea-going boat being now maintained at this port, can scarcely recur), 500*l.*, and by the difference between the cost of the permanent buildings erected in 1842, 782*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*, and the estimate for necessary repairs in the ensuing season, 182*l.* 5*s.* 11*d*, 600*l.*, will show a sum of about 12,660*l.*, Halifax currency, which I would respectfully submit to your Excellency's consideration as the expense to which this department may be subjected up to the close of 1843.

The emigrant tax, which, under the continued operation of the Act, may be expected to be collected in the course of the season, must bear a similar proportion to the numbers of the immigration, as hitherto. If this resource, therefore, be set down at a probable amount of 8,500*l.*, there will remain a sum of about 4,000*l.* unprovided for; and as the balance remaining of the last year's appropriation is comparatively trifling, while there is reason to fear that the estimated limits of the next season's liabilities may prove to have been too much curtailed, I am led to hope that the grant of the Imperial Legislature, which will be made in lieu of the payments originally contemplated in the passage of the Emigrant Tax Bill, will not be less than the amount voted last year, viz. 5,000*l.* sterling.

I am indebted to Her Majesty's Consul at New York for the means of stating the number of emigrants from the United Kingdom landed at that port in the course of the past year, at 51,800. This return shows an increase over the arrivals of the previous season, amounting to 19,391 persons. I have, through the same channel, obtained information of the number of persons who have sailed from New York to Great Britain and Ireland in 1842, and it will be matter of surprise that so large a proportion as 9,521 persons within one year should have found themselves compelled to return from the United States to their native country.

The condition of virtual bankruptcy to which so many of the state governments of the Union are at the present moment reduced, has produced a total interruption in the progress of almost every public work. At the same time there exists the severest depression in both the trade and the agriculture of that country; and the greatest exertions of American enterprise are insufficient effectually to support the untoward circumstances of the times. The result is apparent in the destitution forced upon the labouring classes of immigrants, depending upon the employment offered, up till now, by the numerous canals and roads undertaken,

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undertaken, and in the disappointment suffered by those whose more ample means have been directed to settlement in the Western States. The statement which I have here brought under view does not show, by any means, the entire re-migration from the United States. The ports of Philadelphia and Boston, as well as various others on the Atlantic coast, have possibly been the points of departure of a further large number of persons; and, as I have had occasion to state elsewhere, the numbers who have proceeded to Canada, either immediately on arrival at the American port, or after a residence of a greater or less duration, have equalled those shown to have sailed from New York. Even from Michigan, Illinois, and other hitherto most favoured sections, the return of British settlers to the western districts of the province, has been of extensive occurrence; and it is not to be wondered at, that while the native American settler is the sufferer from redundant production, he should lay himself open to the charge of evincing an inimical feeling to those of foreign origin who crowd on his footsteps.

In approaching the close of this report, I feel called upon to allude to the prospects which the province seems to afford to the emigrant from the United Kingdom who shall resort to it in the course of the ensuing season. I have already offered to your Excellency the considerations under which I have been led to anticipate the arrival of many ill provided and even destitute persons, the assistance and direction of whom must involve considerable expense, and demand the utmost exertions of this department. The promise of employment for this class is, I regret to say, by no means extended since the close of the last year. The influx of labouring emigrants from the United States, owing to the utter impossibility of procuring employment there, has continued up to a late period, and the public works in progress remain supplied, to a great extent, from this source, and by labourers already residents of the country. The rates of wages continue depressed, even beyond the proportion generally admitted in the winter season. But I have reason to think, that although speculative undertakings are, and must continue to be, plainly discouraged by the altered circumstances of the country; and although the point to which the enterprise and activity of the commercial interests have forced their operations cannot be for the present advanced, there is no ground for apprehending that there will not be employment, to a considerable extent, open to labourers of all descriptions, nor any room to fear that the reduction in their wages will be such as in any degree to curtail their comforts. It is probable, indeed, that so soon as the establishment of the necessary new relations between its various interests shall be perceptible, the country will evince a renewed industrial energy, and discover yet unattempted objects of enterprise. In such case, the demand for labour may extend so far as materially to increase the rates of wages, or even to restore them to their former limits. In the meantime, as I have already explained, the labourer is now, notwithstanding his diminished remuneration, at least equally well situated as he has hitherto been, in respect to subsistence, and perhaps not less able to lay by a surplus for the eventual acquirement of land. It is to ordinary labourers arriving at this port, and landing under circumstances which render them dependent on immediate employment for the support of themselves and their families, that these remarks apply. Referring to the classes of immigrants who come provided with some small resources, and who are accordingly in a condition to support temporary difficulty in finding employment, I may speak more confidently; for these not crowding the chief towns and landing places, nor subjected to the risk of immediate want, may spread themselves throughout the country, and reach the situations that readily offer in favour of their better appearance and generally superior intelligence. Artisans and tradesmen come under this view, and have prospects of advantage quite equal, I conceive, to those which former seasons of higher wages, but proportionally increased expenses, may have offered.

It is gratifying to find that remittances to a very considerable amount continue to be made from this country to the United Kingdom, by mechanics, farm servants, and labourers, for the purpose of aiding the future emigration of their relations or their friends; showing that there is ample opportunity for industry to lay by a portion of its earnings. Even in the cases of some very recently arrived immigrants, who had obtained employment on the roads or canals of the province, funds have been saved for this purpose, or deposited in the savings banks. But I am required pointedly to remark, that it is manual labour chiefly which, in this country, obtains superior remuneration. There are some descriptions of persons who cannot benefit themselves by resorting to it, at least at the present time; and many, must, in so doing, change their condition materially for the worse. Active and intelligent mechanics, industrious farmers, and farm servants, well-conducted domestic servants, and able-bodied labourers, are those who will find themselves improved in condition by emigration. But clerks and accountants, persons aspiring to be factors or overseers, and many others, indisposed or incompetent to devote themselves to bodily labour, experience much distress and disappointment; and may be emphatically warned of the error of emigrating to this country.

To those whose object is settlement, and the cultivation of land, this country continues to promise very certain success. The reduced prices borne by agricultural produce would seem to take away from the profits to be realized by the farmer who brings into application his own manual labour only; but there are few who do not require the assistance of others in subduing the forest, or cultivating the improved farm; and since both this assistance, as well as all the necessaries of life required to be purchased, may now be obtained more cheaply than formerly, it may be assumed that the settler, even on the most limited scale, continues to have before him ample encouragement. In the case of those who contemplate the hiring of labourers for the performance of more extensive works of improvement, the circumstances

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circumstances of the country will appear decidedly more advantageous than hitherto. The high value of labour, and the occasional difficulty experienced in procuring full assistance at the seasons in which agricultural undertakings might require it, have operated to prevent the investment of extensive capital in this way. Henceforth it may be found, that the expenses of farming being reduced correspondingly with its returns, the result continues equally favourable, while greater facilities in the procuring of agricultural labourers permit its being conducted on a scale not hitherto reached, and render it an employment more nearly correspondent in its character to that of the extensive farmer of Great Britain or Ireland.

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Lands, both wild and under partial improvement, are offered for sale, to a large extent, in every section of the province. The several land companies, and many private individuals, offer lands for sale on liberal and advantageous terms, and their agencies are established at all the principal towns, for the ready reference of persons desirous of purchasing. The Crown also offers for sale extensive tracts in both sections of the province; those in Canada West at 8s. per acre, those in Canada East at 4s. and 6s. per acre, according to situation.

The districts which have been opened by roads of access, and placed under a system which offers to each efficient settler a free grant of 50 acres of land, continue to hold out to immigrants of enterprise a further resource on their arrival in this country. The class of the immigrants who possess the means of support for the period which must necessarily intervene between their establishment and the realization of their returns, but who have not perhaps sufficient funds to meet, at the same time, the payment of the price of land, must find material advantages under these arrangements, which leave their entire resources to be devoted to the purposes of their settlement.

Having thus brought before your Excellency every matter connected with this department which has appeared to be worthy of notice during the past season, I have the honour to conclude by requesting your Excellency will be pleased to transmit this Report to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) A. C. Buchanan,
Chief Agent.

The Right Hon. Sir C. Bagot, &c. &c. &c.

(B.)

No. 1.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

The following Statement shows the Weekly Arrivals of Emigrants at Quebec and Montreal, during the Year 1842, specifying the Number of Adults, Males and Females; also the Male and Female Children under Fourteen and Seven, as well as the Number of Voluntary Emigrants, and those that received Parochial Aid. (In this Return the Deaths on the Voyage and in Hospital are deducted.)

WEEK ENDING	Adults.		Under 14 Years.		Under 7 Years.		Parochial Aid.	Voluntary.	Total each Week.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
From 9th to 20th May	488	310	90	61	182	88	258	901	1,159
— 21st to 28th May	2,014	1,182	258	250	480	486	25	4,645	4,670
4th June	2,153	1,548	307	287	577	517	112	5,277	5,389
11th —	2,002	1,442	372	301	630	468	735	4,480	5,215
18th —	1,116	705	217	149	575	225	327	2,460	2,787
25th —	1,211	920	168	155	288	254	-	2,994	2,994
2d July	2,169	1,668	358	327	490	536	308	5,240	5,548
9th —	2,758	2,149	449	453	674	709	477	6,710	7,187
23d —	316	249	71	51	71	63	58	783	821
31st —	178	123	40	32	57	48	63	684	747
13th August	451	286	81	80	127	114	-	864	864
20th —	258	204	56	40	67	67	-	692	692
27th —	344	270	94	81	116	123	15	1,313	1,328
3d September	505	407	117	98	136	142	89	1,316	1,405
17th —	403	336	83	81	127	133	60	1,103	1,163
1st October	324	299	91	77	92	109	7	985	992
15th —	222	161	66	50	78	72	15	657	672
5th November	72	29	14	11	11	10	9	147	147
	17,175	12,388	2,902	2,582	4,523	4,167	2,529	41,231	43,760
							Cabin Passengers - - -		614
							Total - - -		44,374

Emigrant Department, Quebec, 31st December 1842.

A. C. Buchanan,
Chief Agent.

(B.) No. 2.

RETURN of the NUMBER of EMIGRANTS embarked, with the Number of Deaths and Births during the Voyage and in Quarantine, showing the Total Number landed in the Colony, distinguishing Males from Females, and Adults from Children, with the Number of Vessels and Average Passage.

	Number of Ships.	Average Passage.	NUMBER EMBARKED.						Number of Deaths during the Voyage and in Quarant. in.						Number of Births.		TOTAL LANDED IN THE COLONY.						TOTAL.	
			Adults.		14 to 7.		Under 7.		Adults.		14 to 7.		Under 7.				Adults.		14 to 7.		Under 7.			
		Days.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
From 9th May to 31st July -	212	45	14,284	10,250	2,282	2,053	3,808	3,450	16	34	2	5	97	82	47	40	14,268	10,216	2,280	2,048	3,758	3,409	20,306	15,673
From 1st August to 5th November - - -	120	47	2,459	2,044	571	545	756	781	4	8	–	6	30	34	12	11	2,655	2,036	571	499	736	758	3,964	3,293
From Lower Ports - -	–	–	250	136	51	35	32	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	250	136	51	35	32	20	333	191
	332	–	17,193	12,430	2,904	2,593	4,596	4,251	20	42	2	11	127	116	59	51	17,173	12,388	2,902	2,582	4,528	4,187	24,603	19,157
																							43,760	
Cabin Passengers not included - -																							614	
																							44,374	

Emigrant Office,
Quebec.

A. C. BUCHANAN,
Chief Agent.

(B.) No. 3.

NAMES of PORTS from which EMIGRANTS came during the Year 1842.

	Number from each Port.
ENGLAND.	
Aberystwith	197
Bristol	535
Bideford	142
Bridgewater	99
Cowes	258
Fowey	233
Falmouth	195
Gloucester	94
Hull	578
London	1,035
Liverpool	5,823
Lancaster	32
Newcastle	1
Padstow	1,173
Plymouth	1,207
Poole	13
Penzance	7
Scarbro'	39
Stockton	101
St. Ives	90
Swansea	4
Yarmouth	24
Cabin passengers	312
	12,191
IRELAND.	
Ballyshannon	34
Baltimore	198
Belfast	4,636
Cork	1,875
Donegal	871
Dublin	2,091
Galway	409
Killala	392
Larne	277
Limerick	4,021
Londonderry	2,200
Newport	424
New Ross	553
Newry	1,547
Sligo	2,897
Tralee	498
Westport	898
Wexford	244
Waterford	1,291
Youghal	24
Cabin passengers	62
	25,532
SCOTLAND.	
Aberdeen	495
Alloa	27
Berwick	53
Carmarthen	25
Dundee	164
Glasgow	3,797
Grangemouth	3
Greenock	546
Leith	150
Stornaway	192
Thurso	442
Skeye, Isle of	13
Cabin passengers	208
	6,095
LOWER PORTS.	
New Brunswick, Miramichi, and ports in the Gulf of St. Lawrence	524
Cabin passengers	32
	556

Emigrant Department, Quebec, 31st December 1842.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

(B.) No. 4.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Number of EMIGRANTS arrived at QUEBEC since the Year 1829, inclusive.

Places of Departure.	1829.	1830.	1831.	1832.	1833.	1834.	1835.	1836.	1837.	1838.	1839.	1840.	1841.	1842.	Total.
England and Wales	3,565	6,799	10,345	17,181	5,198	6,799	8,087	12,188	5,580	990	1,536	4,567	5,970	12,191	96,324
Ireland	9,614	18,300	34,133	28,904	19,018	19,206	7,108	12,590	14,538	1,456	5,113	16,291	18,317	25,532	229,415
Scotland	2,648	2,450	5,354	5,500	4,196	4,591	2,127	2,224	1,509	647	485	1,144	3,559	6,095	42,424
New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and ports on the River St. Lawrence	133	451	424	546	345	299	225	235	274	278	253	232	240	556	4,518
Continental ports	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	485	-	-	-	-	500
	15,945	27,900	50,254	51,746	21,752	30,935	12,597	27,772	21,901	3,266	7,439	22,234	28,086	44,374	366,181

Emigrant Department, Quebec, 31st December 1842.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

A. C. Buchanan, Chief Agent.
Emigrant Office, Quebec.

CANADA.

No. 1.
Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 28th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

(B.) No. 5.

RETURN of the Number of EMIGRANTS admitted at the Quarantine Hospital from the 1st of May to the close of the Navigation 1842.

	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.
Men Women Children	488	434	54

EMIGRANTS admitted to the Marine Hospital in QUEBEC during the same Period.

	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.
Men Women Children	312	280	32

Emigrant Department, Quebec, 31st December 1842.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

(B.) No. 6.

DISTRIBUTION of EMIGRANTS arrived at QUEBEC in the Year 1842, as near as can be ascertained.

CANADA, EAST:		
City and district of Quebec	500	
District of Three Rivers and St. Francis, including the eastern townships	1,100	
City and district of Montreal, including Beauharnois, St. Andrews, and Grenville	5,000	
		6,600
CANADA, WEST:		
Ottawa and Bathurst districts, and along the line of the Rideau Canal, including Bytown	3,500	
The Eastern and Johnstown districts, and along the route of the St. Lawrence	2,250	
The Midland, Victoria and Prince Edward's Island districts, and up the Bay of Quinte, and in the vicinity of Kingston	5,550	
Landed at Cobourg, Port Hope, Windsor, Darlington, and settled in the Newcastle district	2,260	
Landed at Toronto, and settled in the Home and Gore Districts	15,800	
Niagara district, including St. Catherine's and along the Welland Canal	3,700	
The Huron tract and in the London district	1,500	
Went to New Brunswick and Prince Edward's Island, and to ports of the Gulf of the St. Lawrence	200	
Supposed to have gone to the United States	2,500	
Returned to the United Kingdom	100	
Distribution unknown	414	
		37,774
TOTAL		44,374

Emigrant Department, Quebec, 31st December 1842.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

CANADA.

No. 1.

Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

(B.) No. 7.

THE following LIST shows the TOTAL NUMBER of PAUPERS and others who received the Means to emigrate during the Year 1842.

Vessels Names.	Where from.	Date of Arrival.	English.		Irish.	Scotch.
			Poor Law Commissioners.	Parish and Private Funds.	Landlords and Private Funds.	Societies and other Funds.
John Bell	New Ross	11th May	-	-	19	—
Tottenham	Ditto	20th —	-	-	20	—
Prince George	London	20th —	219	—	—	—
Belle	Padstow	24th —	-	19	—	—
Edward	Plymouth	28th —	-	6	—	—
Victoria	Fowey	29th —	-	14	—	—
R. Adelaide	Ditto	29th —	-	9	—	—
Spermaceti	Plymouth	29th —	-	16	—	—
Emmanuel	Bristol	31st —	-	19	—	—
Lord Canterbury	Ditto	2d June	-	54	—	—
Bowlin	Glasgow	6th —	-	-	-	130
Harper	Ditto	9th —	-	-	-	29
Renfrewshire	Ditto	10th —	-	-	-	568
Volunu	Padstow	7th —	-	8	—	—
Bryan Abbe	Limerick	12th —	-	-	104	—
Irvine	Bristol	16th —	-	32	—	—
Pusey Hall	Cowes	16th —	171	—	—	—
Minstrel	Liverpool	16th —	-	20	—	—
Dependent	Bridgwater	27th —	52	—	—	—
Ayrshire	Newry and Dublin	30th —	-	-	62	—
Orbit	London	1st July	194	—	—	—
Traveller	Dublin	5th —	-	-	51	—
Sapphire	Limerick	5th —	-	-	43	—
Arcturus	London	5th —	48	—	—	—
Wexford	Glasgow & Greenock	6th —	-	-	-	130
Independence	Belfast	6th —	-	-	158	—
Hope	Limerick	9th —	-	-	47	—
Joseph Green	Thurso	17th —	-	-	-	38
Mary	London	31st —	-	12	—	—
Pactolus	Glasgow	3d Aug.	-	-	-	51
Euphrosyne	Bristol	25th —	-	15	—	—
City of Waterford	Liverpool	28th —	-	5	—	—
Princess Royal	Carmarthen	29th —	-	4	—	—
Susan	London	2d Sept.	80	—	—	—
Eliza	Ditto	17th —	60	—	—	—
Rosebery	Ditto	26th —	7	—	—	—
Adelaide	Liverpool	12th Oct.	-	8	—	—
John and Mary	Padstow	12th —	-	7	—	—
			831	248	504	946
		Total	-	-	2,529	

Emigrant Department, Quebec, 31st December 1842.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

CANADA.

No. 1.
Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

(B.) No. 8.

ABSTRACT of AVERAGE LENGTH of PASSAGES made by Vessels with Emigrants from the United Kingdom to QUEBEC, during the Year 1842.

Date of sailing from the United Kingdom.	Number of Vessels.	Shortest Passage.	Longest Passage.	Average Passage.
March 26th to 31st	3	42	54	48½
April 1st to 15th	64	32	61	47
April 16th to 30th	49	40	70	44½
May 1st to 15th	41	39	62	47½
May 16th to 31st	30	34	50	40
June 1st to 15th	29	28	77	42
June 16th to 30th	23	39	70	58
July 1st to 15th	11	40	62	52
July 16th to 31st	15	33	56	48
August 1st to 15th	27	41	72	47½
August 16th to 31st	27	35	54	45
September 1st to 15th	4	38	46	41½
September 16th to 30th	2	30	35	32½

Average - - 46 Days.

Emigrant Department, Quebec, 31st December 1842.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

(B.) No. 9.

EXTRACTS from the several WEEKLY REPORTS made to the Governor General by the Chief Agent for Emigrants at QUEBEC.

Week ending 21st May 1842.

THE emigrants who have arrived at this port since the opening of the navigation are farmers, labourers, and mechanics, and all landed in good health.

Those by the Favourite, Mohawk, and Monarch, from Glasgow, 169 in number, are farmers and respectable mechanics, all in good circumstances, who, with the exception of a few of the tradesmen, are proceeding to join their relatives settled in different sections of the province; two families went to their friends in Shipton, eastern townships.

The John Bell and Tottenham arrived from New Ross with 429 passengers; these are chiefly labourers and farmers, many of the former very poor and depending on immediate employment for their support; the farmers generally appear to possess money, and with few exceptions are proceeding to their friends in Canada West.

On my boarding the Tottenham to inspect the vessel, I found that the master had removed all the berthing and accommodation for his passengers previous to his arrival in port, contrary to the fourth clause of the Provincial Passenger Act, for which I fined him in the penalty of 5*l.*, which he paid to avoid costs of prosecution. The penalty I handed over to Mr. Jessopp, the collector of customs.

The barque Borneo, with 291 passengers from Limerick, chiefly labourers, and a few farmers: many of the latter appear in good circumstances; the labourers are poor, and depending on immediate employment for their support.

The passengers per Prince George from London are 262 in number, and, with the exception of 40, are paupers, sent out under the sanction of the Poor Law Commissioners, chiefly from Kent; they landed in good health, and received a free passage to Montreal, with two days provision, and 20*s.* sterling to each adult on leaving the ship. They are, with few exceptions, proceeding to their friends in the Newcastle, Home, and Gore districts. Two families, cabin passengers, who are in possession of considerable means, I have induced to settle on the Lambton Road; they have taken 50 acres each, and intend, so soon as they have made the requisite improvements, to purchase a further quantity of land from Government.

Week ending 28th May.

Emigrants arrived during the past week all landed in good health, and consist of farmers, mechanics, and labourers; many of them are in good circumstances; their destination is principally to Canada West, some to join their friends, and others to obtain land or employment.

The passengers from the ports of Padstow, Gloster, St. Ives, Plymouth, Hull, and Aberdeen are of the better class of emigrants, and all appear to possess means; many of them have friends settled in different sections of the province; and others, particularly from Padstow, are miners and mechanics in search of employment.

The Irish emigrants were not generally so well off; a considerable number of them are very poor; those with large families were assisted to proceed to their friends, and where they would meet with employment.

Many of them are, however, in good circumstances, and have brought out a good deal of property; their destination is, with few exceptions, to the western part of the province.

Among the arrivals this week are 417 passengers brought up by the steamer Lumber Merchant from the wreck of the ship Jane Black, from Limerick, lost on the night of the 9th instant at Point des Monts, 250 miles below this port; the poor people were encamped for 10 days, and on a short allowance of food, before the steamer reached them; they saved but little of their luggage; and many of them who left their homes in comfortable circumstances lost every thing they had. Captain Gorman stated that a large number of his passengers brought out a considerable amount of money among them; they were Protestants, and intended to settle in the western section of the province. Owing to the distressed state in which these people arrived, I was under the necessity of assisting about 200 of them with a passage and provisions to Montreal, on their route to their friends.

Captain Simpson of the ship Llan Rumney from Hull brought up 54 passengers from the wreck of the Kent, from Glasgow. This vessel was lost on the same night as the Jane Black at Seven Island Bay, 300 miles below this port; the passengers saved the greater part of their effects, and were able to defray their own expenses from this port. Much credit is due to Captain Simpson for his kind and humane conduct to these people during their stay in his ship. They state that several vessels had passed previously, but refused to take them off the wreck. Captain Simpson supplied them with provisions at his own expense until their arrival at this port.

I fined Captain —— of the Leo, from Wexford, 5*l.* for the infringement of the 4th clause of the Provincial Passenger Act, which he paid to avoid the costs of prosecution; the amount I handed over to Mr. Jessopp, collector of customs.

Week ending 4th June.

The emigrants arrived during the past week consist of farmers, mechanics, and labourers, a large portion of whom are in search of employment. There are however a number of families in good circumstances, who are with few exceptions proceeding to Canada West, where many have friends, and others with the intention of settling.

I have been under the necessity of extending relief to a considerable number of families during the past week, owing to the difficulty of procuring labour for them in this section of the province. Among the passengers arrived are 14 families in the Carleton, from Glasgow; these people are members of the North Quarter Glasgow Society; they landed here in good health, but without a shilling in their pockets, and consist of mechanics and labourers; all appear anxious and desirous of obtaining employment, and as many of them have relations in the upper province, I assisted those with large families to proceed thither. Masons are at present required at the Government works in this city, and mechanics of this class find ready employment at good wages, 5*s.* per day; all other description of employment is, I regret to say, scarce; this is to be attributed solely to the depressed state of trade, and the small number of vessels arrived to this date. The timber coves, which in former years furnished employment to a large number of labourers on their first arrival here, are this season not employing a single man, and the number of resident labourers thrown out of employment completely absorb the work which formerly was open to the emigrant.

Among the passengers in the Lord Canterbury from Bristol were eight families, 54 in number, who were assisted by their respective parishes; they are proceeding to the western section of the province; the remaining families are all in good circumstances, and have brought out a good deal of money with them; they intend settling in the Johnstown, Midland, and Home districts. In the Emmanuel were three families, 19 in number, also sent out by their parish; they were forwarded to Montreal at the ship's expense, and are going to their friends at Prescott.

Week ending 11th June.

The emigrants arrived during the past week have landed generally in good health; of whom over two-thirds are Irish; they are chiefly of the agricultural class; and the average of those who are in possession of small capital is, I consider, greater than in former seasons; their route is, with few exceptions, to the western section of the province, some to join friends, and others to purchase lands. I have endeavoured to persuade a few of the heads of families, who have good means (but without any fixed destination in view), to visit some of our flourishing settlements in this section of the province, and judge for themselves; but I regret to say their dread of winter is so great that it is difficult to induce them to attend to any offer for settlement, no matter how favourable it may be, should it be situated in Lower Canada. It is gratifying to state that to this period there have been but few cases of complaint against masters of vessels; the accommodations have been very good, and passengers generally well supplied with provisions. In the ships Bowlin, Harper, and Renfrewshire, from

CANADA.

No. 1.

Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

Glasgow, were 727 passengers, members of the different emigration societies; these people all landed very poor, and owing to their long passage, the average being 57 days, arrived here short of provisions; the passengers by the two former ships proceeded direct to Montreal, and I was under the necessity of furnishing them with a supply of oatmeal and biscuit to enable them to reach that port.

Those by the Renfrewshire landed here, without provisions or the means of paying their transport up the country; and as they principally consisted of persons with large families, for whom employment could not be obtained here, I was under the necessity of assisting the greater portion of them to proceed to the western section of the province; some to join their friends, or others in search of employment. I regret to remark that the members of the Glasgow emigration societies arrived here both this and last year in a more destitute condition than any other emigrants from the United Kingdom; they leave their homes with barely sufficient to pay their passage and to procure a scanty supply of provisions; and unless they have a favourable passage, land here in a state of great distress. The passengers, although much within the period allowed by law for a voyage to this port, were out of provisions some days before their arrival at quarantine.

The emigrants from England are from Padstow, Bideford, and Aberystwith; they are all able to pay their way to their destinations, and many of them have brought out a good deal of money. They all emigrated on their own account, with the exception of one family, eight in number, sent out in the Voluna from Padstow, by parish relief.

A number of families have landed during the week, with the intention of proceeding to the United States; they have in many instances been sent for by their friends, and all have a fixed destination in view.

Week ending 18th June.

The emigrants arrived during the past week consist of farmers, labourers, and mechanics; in several of the vessels there has been a number of cases of small-pox, measles, and fever, and there has consequently been a considerable addition to the number of patients in quarantine hospital.

In the Bryan Abbs were 18 families, 104 persons, sent out by Colonel Wyndham from his estates in the county of Clare; these people were well provided for, and received the sum of 20*s.* sterling each adult on landing here, to enable them to proceed up the country. In the John Walker, from Poole, were 236 persons; 18 were left sick at Grosse Isle, and three deaths occurred during the Voyage. They consist of English, Irish, and Scotch; there are a few respectable farmers with capital, who are proceeding to settle in the Home district; the remainder are labourers and mechanics in search of employment.

In the Albion, from Sligo, were 123 passengers, generally poor, and proceeding up the country for employment; a few families are going to their friends in the United States; left four sick at quarantine. The Marquis of Wellesley had 264 passengers from Dublin; they are chiefly farmers, and have brought out a large amount of capital, and are a respectable set of people. Three families went to their friends in the eastern townships, the rest to Canada West.

One hundred and five passengers arrived in the Queen of the Isles from Glasgow; are mechanics and labourers, and all appear to have sufficient means to convey them to their destinations.

In the Cabotia and Minstrel, from Liverpool, are 408 passengers; a few English farmers have brought out good means with them; the chief part are labourers, and a few mechanics, who are proceeding to different sections of the province to their friends. The latter vessel left nine in hospital, and a few of the families were short of provisions; one family, seven in number, and several young men and women were assisted by the parish; about 30 of them are gone to their friends in the United States.

The passengers from Hull and Bristol, 192 in number, are all in good circumstances, among whom are several farmers with capital.

In the Irvine, from Bristol, were four families, 32 in number, sent out by their parish; 171 passengers in the Pusey Hall, from London and Cowes, were sent out under the sanction of the Poor Law Commissioners. They were well supplied during the voyage, and the sum of 116*l.* 10*s.* sterling was paid to them on landing, with a free passage to Montreal.

Two hundred and forty-four passengers in the brigs Samuel and Hannah, from Killala, are very poor; they all landed in good health. A number of the young men I have directed to the Gosford Road for employment, and those with families I assisted to proceed up the country.

The passengers in the brig Percival, 149 in number, were 55 days on the voyage; they were short of provisions, and obliged to put into Sydney for a supply. Those from Scarborough are respectable farmers, and all appear to possess means.

In the Onyx, from Dublin, are a number of respectable farmers with money, the remainder are labourers and mechanics proceeding to different sections of the province; 13 of her passengers were left at Grosse Isle.

In the Chieftain, from Larne, with 261 passengers, there are several farmers with their families, who have brought out capital, varying from 200*l.* to 600*l.*; they are proceeding to settle in Canada West. The remainder are farm servants and labourers, who have emigrated in search of employment.

I regret to say that employment continues very scarce, both in this neighbourhood and in Montreal; and from reports received from Mr. Hawke, I regret to find the same complaint exists in that quarter, and will I fear continue so until the harvest commences.

Week ending 25th June.

The emigrants arrived during the past week have landed, with the exception of those in a few vessels, in good health, and among them are a considerable number of respectable families with capital.

In the Gazelle and Jane Duffis, from Donegal, are 470 passengers, among whom are a number of respectable farmers, who have brought out a large amount of property; the capital in these two vessels (from the information I have been able to collect) amounts to from 8,000*l.* to 10,000*l.* Their destination is Canada West, principally to the Home and Gore districts. The Henry, from Killala, with 148 passengers, arrived in good health; a few families are in good circumstances, but the greater part poor. Many of them have friends in the Ottawa, Bathurst, and Johnston districts; three families are going to their friends in the state of New York.

The passengers in the Queen Victoria, Luna, Bowes, and Queen, from Sligo, 711 in number, all landed in good health; and although they had long passages, average being 45 days, they, with the exception of one or two families, per the Queen, had a surplus stock of provisions on landing. A few families are in good circumstances, but the greater part are poor. About one-fourth are going to their friends in the United States, the remainder to different sections of the province. Those with large families were assisted from this office with means to enable them to reach their friends in the Home and Newcastle districts.

Sixty passengers in the brig Robert Murrow, from Leith, are respectable tradesmen; all appear to possess means, and, with the exception of three families who remain in Montreal with their friends, are proceeding to the neighbourhood of Toronto to settle; they went to Montreal direct in the vessel.

In the brig Wingrove, from Glasgow, were 160 passengers; this vessel proceeded to Montreal direct, after a few hours delay here, with her passengers. On boarding her, they complained of an overcharge for emigrant tax, children under fourteen, and seven years, being charged the full tax of 4*s.* 6*d.* sterling, which is contrary to law; but as the vessel only remained here a few hours, I forwarded instructions to the agent at Montreal to take the necessary steps to give them redress, in case the captain refused to refund the overcharge. A number of these families are very poor; they are members of the Glasgow emigration societies, and will require assistance to enable them to proceed up the country.

In the Xenophon, from Belfast, 250 passengers are farm labourers and tradesmen; a few of the former are in good circumstances, and are proceeding to Port Hope, Hamilton, and a few families to their friends in the London district, and from eight to ten young men to their friends in the state of New York. This vessel had a long voyage of 52 days, but all landed in good health.

Six hundred and thirty-seven passengers, in the Standard and Compton, from Liverpool, are principally labourers, and generally very poor; above one-fourth are going to the United States, to their friends; among them are 10 or 12 Welsh families, consisting of about 50 individuals, who are going to the state of Ohio; they appear to have sufficient means to pay their way. The passengers per Compton suffered a great deal from sickness; there were 12 deaths from small-pox during the voyage, and a number of cases were sent to hospital on her arrival at quarantine.

This vessel had a long passage of nine weeks, and consequently a great many of the passengers were short of provisions; they all complained of the neglect and inattention of the master, Mr. Jeffery, to their wants during the voyage; and I regret that, owing to the defective regulations of the present Passenger Act, I could not give them any redress to their complaints.

One hundred and sixty-six passengers, per Jubilee, from Westport, landed in good health; they are chiefly labourers; a number are going to their friends in the United States, and others are in search of employment.

In the brig Ann Moore, from Limerick, were 182 passengers. There was, I regret to say, a great deal of sickness in this vessel; she left 59 of her passengers at Grosse Isle, 37 of whom were sent to hospital. A passenger by this vessel, named Patrick Quincey, jumped overboard during the night while the ship was at anchor at Grosse Isle, and was drowned, leaving a wife and eight children, who were sent to hospital with fever: he has left 40 sovereigns in gold, which were taken charge of by the medical superintendent until his wife recovers.

The passengers in the Prince of Wales, 193 in number, from Galway, landed in good health; they are chiefly labourers and farmers, and are proceeding up the country in search of employment; a few families are in good circumstances. About 40 are going to the United States, to join their friends settled there.

Employment, I regret to say, still continues scarce in this district; I have, however, succeeded in procuring employment on the Gosford Road for about 100 men, and from 100 to 150 in the eastern townships. Employment, I hear, is abundant in that section of the province; but I find the greatest difficulty to induce those seeking work to try that section of the province.

CANADA.

No. 1.

Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley. 26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

Week ending 2d July.

The emigrants arrived this week are principally farmers and labourers; those in the William Tell and Richard Watson, from Dublin, 364 in number, landed in good health; they are chiefly labourers, and a few farmers, who appear possessed of small capital.

The passengers in the Mary Russell, Boadicea, Mary, and Messenger, from Limerick, arrived in good health, and consist of farmers and labourers; they are, with few exceptions, proceeding to Canada West, with the intention of settling. In the Mary Russell the passengers were of a superior class; several families brought out capital, from 500*l.* to 600*l.*, and the master reported almost every family was in possession of from 40*l.* to 50*l.* in gold; these people all proceeded to settle in the Home and Gore districts.

In the Dumfrieshire, Mary, and Margaret Johnston, were 1,135 passengers from Belfast; they landed in good health, and are all proceeding to the western part of the province; only eight families, about 50 individuals, out of this number applied for assistance, which they received, as they were going to join their relatives settled in the western section of the province.

The passengers from Hull and Plymouth, 335 in number, are principally agriculturists, and all appear in good circumstances; a few are going to the United States, but over three-fourths intend settling in Canada West, in the Newcastle, Home, and Gore districts, and one or two families in the Huron tract.

Ninety-eight passengers in the Dependant, from Bridgewater, arrived in good health, 52 of whom were sent out by the Chard Union in Somersetshire; these people were found in provisions by the ship, and received 20*s.* sterling on landing; the remaining passengers were of the better class, and possess good means; they intend going to the western section of the province to settle; a good many of the paupers intend proceeding to the United States.

The passengers in the Blonde and Feronio, 483, from Glasgow, are a fine intelligent body of people; and have brought a large amount of capital with them; it is impossible to ascertain the exact amount, but from the information I have received I should estimate it at from 10,000*l.* to 12,000*l.*; they are proceeding to the Bathurst, Home, and Gore districts, with the intention of settling; many of them are going to join their friends.

The passengers per the Ayrshire, 416 in number, from Newry and Dublin; she had a long voyage of 51 days, and had 25 deaths previous to her arrival at Grosse Isle, all children, from the effects of measles; a number of families, embarked at Dublin, were aided in their emigration by the Earl of Fitzwilliam, from his estates in the county of Clare; these people, owing to their long passage, landed here, as well as many of the other passengers, short of provisions, and I was under the necessity of assisting 15 families, who had expended all their means, to enable them to proceed up the country.

Three hundred and twenty-six passengers in the Thomas and Hannah and Jane Avery, from Londonderry, arrived in good health; they are chiefly labourers, and all very poor; I had to assist a large number of families, who were without means, to proceed up the country; some to their friends, and others in search of employment.

In the brig Mary, from Liverpool, were 213 passengers; this vessel arrived in a most wretched state at Grosse Isle, from sickness; there had been five deaths previous to her arrival there; and 56 cases of typhus were sent to hospital, two of whom died in a few hours after. This vessel cleared from Liverpool, according to the certified list of her passengers forwarded to this office by the Government agent at that port, with 192 passengers; on arrival here, she was found to have 22 on board, whose names were not on the list; she was also exceedingly crowded, the passengers being obliged to keep all their luggage and provisions between decks, there being no room in the lower hold; it (with the exception of a small space for water and fuel) was full of salt. On measuring the superficial space between decks, I found she had only space for 165 adults, whereas she had 180¾ on board, being an excess of 15¾ passengers; the necessary information was immediately placed in the hands of the Crown officer, to prosecute the master for the infringement of the second clause of the Imperial Passengers Act.

The dreadful condition in which this vessel arrived may in a great measure, in my opinion, be attributed to the crowded state of the vessel, and to her having a cargo of salt in the lower hold, which was full up to the platform which the passengers occupied.

One hundred and ninety-four passengers in the Orbit from London and Gravesend, were sent out under the direction and superintendence of the Poor Law Commissioners; there were five deaths on the voyage, one an old man, the others children, and left a number of cases at Grosse Isle; these people were forwarded to Montreal at the ship's expense, and received 20*s.* sterling each adult on landing here.

The passengers in the Ruth, from Cork, and Jane from Tralee, are chiefly labourers, and with very limited means; a large number in the Ruth were very destitute, and as employment in this district is very limited, I had to forward a considerable number of them up the country.

Two hundred and fifty-three passengers in the Devereux, from Liverpool, and 186 in the Mary Alice, from Newport, Ireland, are very poor, and principally depending on employment for their support. Notwithstanding the passage to Montreal is only 1*s.* 3*d.* each, I was under the necessity of forwarding a very large proportion of the passengers in the latter vessel; the, are going to different sections of Canada West, to join their friends.

The passengers from Sligo, 439 in number, have landed in good health; they are principally labourers, and intend to proceed up the country in search of employment.

CANADA.

No. 1.
Sir C. Bagot
to
Lord Stanley,
26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

Week ending 9th July.

Over 7,000 emigrants landed at this port during the past week, 5,000 of whom arrived during the 5th and 6th instant, and all extremely healthy. By a report received from Dr. Douglass, the medical superintendent at Grosse Isle, it appears he had occasion to send only four cases, out of the whole number, to hospital, a circumstance unprecedented. Their healthy state may in a great measure be attributed to the extremely fine passages most of the vessels have made; the average of the week is less than 40 days, and the Sherbrooke, Jessie, and Victoria, from Liverpool, and Robert Bruce, from Bristol, came over in from 26 to 30 days, without a single day of rough weather.

They consist of farmers, labourers, mechanics, and servants, very many of whom have brought out a good deal of property, and are, with few exceptions, proceeding to settle in Canada West. I should estimate this number at two-thirds; the remainder are very poor, and many without means sufficient to take them to their friends, or to where they will meet with employment.

Those who arrived here in the most distress, were 35 families, 156 persons in the ship Independence, from Belfast; and 22 families, 130 persons, in the Wexford, from Glasgow; these families had formed themselves into societies, and collected subscriptions, which barely enabled them to procure a passage and provisions for the voyage, and arrived here destitute of both money and provisions. I was under the necessity of giving these people a supply of provisions, and forwarded them up to the country, there being no employment available for them in this district.

The other emigrants who received assistance to emigrate were from Dublin and Limerick, 181 in number; they all received a sum of money on landing here to enable them to proceed to their friends, and were also well supplied during the voyage; those from Limerick are mostly Colonel Wyndham's tenantry; they are proceeding to their friends in the Newcastle district; 10 families, 48 in number, in the Arcturus, are paupers sent out by their parishes, under the superintendence of the Poor Law Commissioners; they all received sufficient means to carry them to their destinations.

A case of gross infringement of the Imperial Passenger Act occurred this week in the brig Lively, Captain ——, from Galway, with 192 passengers; about 130 of these people state that they had engaged their passage with Mr. ——, in this vessel, to proceed to St. John's, New Brunswick; but, contrary to their agreement, they were brought to this port. I immediately took proceedings against Captain —— to oblige him to fulfil the contract between these people and Mr. ——, which he, to avoid prosecution, immediately complied with, and furnished those who were desirous of proceeding to St. John's with a conveyance, there being fortunately a schooner about to sail for that port; a report of the particulars of the case, with the affidavits of the passengers, I forward separate. It is but justice to the master to state that he appears in no way to blame, having joined the vessel only a few days previous to her sailing, and he used every exertion to remedy the evil on arrival here. I have also had occasion to place information in the hands of the Crown officer to prosecute the following vessels for the infringement of the Imperial Act, in not having sufficient superficial space for the accommodation of their passengers; viz. the Jane Melvain, from Londonderry; Independence, from Belfast; Lord Seaton and Dromahair, from Sligo; Bruce, from Newport, and the Lively, from Galway; the Harmony, from Waterford; the Britannia and Warrior, from Westport, were fined by the collector of customs for an excess of passengers over their tonnage; these vessels have each paid the penalty.

There are still, I regret to say, a good many hands unemployed at the different agencies throughout the province, but as the harvest is now approaching, I anticipate but little difficulty in being able to dispose of them all to advantage. Mr. Hawke reports, that the crops look most promising, and that throughout Canada West there is every appearance of a bountiful harvest; this in connexion with the large additional number of hands which will shortly be required on the St. Lawrence improvements in this section of the province, will more than absorb those at present seeking employment, and also furnish it for those who may arrive.

Week ending 23d July.

The emigrants arrived during the past week all landed in good health, and consist of mechanics, farmers, and a few labourers, generally in good circumstances.

The passengers per the Amazon, from Hull, consist of eight families and a few young men, chiefly mechanics, the greater part of them intend proceeding to join their friends settled in the state of Ohio, and all appear to possess good means. Two families, farmers, are proceeding to settle in the neighbourhood of Toronto. One hundred and seventy-seven passengers in the Exile from Belfast, are a respectable looking people, chiefly farmers; a considerable number of them have their friends in the western section of the province; this vessel had an excess of 18 passengers over her complement, according to the superficial measurement of her passengers' deck, and I have taken the necessary proceedings against the master to enforce the penalty. The barque Joseph Green arrived from Thurso with 239 passengers, who landed in good health; this vessel also had an excess of 26¼ passengers over her complement, according to measurement, particulars of which I have placed in the hands of the Crown officer for prosecution.

These people are, with the exception of a few families, all in good circumstances, and able to pay their way to their destinations, which are to the Bathurst, Home, and Gore districts,

CANADA.

No. 1.

Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

districts. The 103 passengers in the brig Truant, from Sligo, are a healthy set of people, and consist of farmers and labourers, many of whom have friends in the western part of the province. This vessel was ascertained, on checking her list of passengers, to have an excess of 10¾ adults over her complement, according to tonnage, for which excess the master was fined in the penalty of 20*l.* sterling, although, according to the extent of her superficial space, she might have carried from 12 to 14 passengers more. Passengers per the Corisbrooke, from Liverpool, and Baltic, from Yarmouth, are chiefly farmers and labourers; some respectable families in the former vessel are proceeding to settle in the eastern townships. I am happy to report that during the past month I have succeeded in directing a very considerable number of families to that section of the province; and, by the reports I have since received, they have all succeeded in getting employment, with the exception of some few young men, who were dissatisfied with the wages offered, viz. 2*s.* per day, with board. The following extract of a report received from A. B. Hawke, Esq., chief agent for Canada West, dated 20th instant, conveys most gratifying intelligence of the increased demand for labourers, and that the number of the unemployed, which I have had occasion to allude to in my former Reports, are rapidly decreasing:—

"The accounts which I have received from Cobourg, Toronto, and Hamilton, since I wrote you last, state that the near approach of harvest has increased the demand for labour, and that the number of unemployed persons was rapidly diminishing; but few emigrants so far have obtained employment on the public works. When we consider how few canal labourers settle and become good farmers, it is a subject of congratulation that so many have found employment in the rural districts; and unless we have a very extensive emigration late this fall, there is every prospect that all the immigrants will be comfortably settled before the winter sets in."

In the schooner Defiance, from Miramichi, were 108 passengers, 10 of whom landed there this season; the others were old residents, chiefly farmers and labourers. Employment being very scarce, they have come on here seeking it. The greater part intend proceeding up the country.

Week ending 6th August.

The emigrants arrived at this port since the 24th ultimo consist chiefly of farmers and labourers, and all landed in good health.

In the Troubadour, from Glasgow, were 224 passengers, consisting of farmers and mechanics, many of whom are in good circumstances. They are all proceeding to the western section of the province to settle, where many of them have friends. They proceeded to Montreal in the vessel. One hundred and thirty-three passengers in the St. Andrew, from Stornaway, are principally labourers and a few farmers, and all very poor. They all intend settling in the eastern townships, in Burry and Linwick. Their means being very limited, I was under the necessity of assisting them with a conveyance for the women and children as far as Sherbrook.

In the Margaret Balfour, from Belfast, were some very respectable emigrants, with good means; they all went to the western section of the province for settlement and employment. Two families, 12 in number, in the Mary, from London, are proceeding to their relatives at Guelph; they were assisted to emigrate by their parish. The other emigrants by this vessel appear in comfortable circumstances, and have all proceeded up the country, some for employment and others to join their friends. Seventy-four passengers in the schooner Anna Maria, from Limerick, consist of farmers and labourers. Five families are proceeding to their friends at Bytown, the remainder are going to their friends in the United States. They all appear able to pay their own way.

In the Pactolus, from Glasgow, were nine families, 51 souls, who have been aided to emigrate by public and private contribution; they landed here very poor. Two families who have relations in the province, one at Guelph, the other near Montreal, were forwarded to them; the others were sent into the country settlements for employment. This vessel proceeded direct to Montreal. The remainder of her passengers were all in good circumstances, and all intend settling in Canada West.

The demand for labourers throughout the country settlements has considerably increased; and I received a letter from one gentleman in the eastern townships a few days since, requesting me to forward him from 20 to 30 hands, to whom he would give steady employment until the winter, at 2*s.* 6*d.* per day. I find great difficulty in inducing any of those seeking employment to avail themselves of this offer; if they have the means of proceeding up the country, nothing will induce them to remain in this section of the province.

Week ending 13th August.

The emigrants of the past week landed in good health; but a large proportion of them very poor, and requiring assistance to enable them to reach their friends; they are, with but with few exceptions, proceeding to different sections of Canada West to join their friends and relatives who have been for some years resident in the province.

A number of the passengers per Springhill, from Donegal, are very poor; and I was under the necessity of assisting them with a free passage up the country, to enable them to proceed to their friends; the greater part of these people were on board this vessel over 12 weeks; as owing to a report of the vessel being unseaworthy, the Government agent at Sligo would not permit her to proceed to sea until a proper survey was held, and she was reported fit for the voyage. The passengers per the Royal Bride, from Dundee, are respect-

able

able farmers, and all have friends and relatives settled in the province; they all appear to possess means. One hundred and ninety-eight passengers in the Nelson Village, from Belfast, are also, with few exceptions, proceeding to Canada West to join their relatives; they are mostly agricultural labourers, a number of whom possess money; a few young men whose means were limited proceeded to the Gosford Road for employment. The passengers per Huron, from Liverpool, and Henry Volant, from Ballyshannon, are labourers, a few mechanics, and servants; the greater part are proceeding up the country to their friends, and others I have directed to the Gosford Road for employment. Three families have gone to the eastern townships; there are but few emigrants about this city or Montreal out of employment at present; several hundred hands are now employed on the Beauharnois Canal, at 3*s.* per day.

Week ending 20th August.

The emigrants arrived during the past week consist of agricultural labourers, a few farmers, mechanics, and domestic servants; and nearly all appear to have their friends or relatives settled in different sections of the province; they have landed generally in good health; but owing to long and tedious passages, the average being over 57 days, very many families whose funds were limited were unable to proceed to their destinations without assistance.

The passengers per the Macoa, 282 in number, sailed from Londonderry on the 10th May, and after being a few days at sea, the ship was obliged to put into Belfast in distress; and was detained there until the 14th June. As these people were delayed at that port upwards of four weeks, attended with a good deal of extra expense, the funds of many of the families were completely exhausted on their arrival here; and I found it necessary to grant some assistance to enable them to reach their friends. The master, Mr. Milligan, was most kind and attentive to their wants during the voyage; and they all speak most favourably of his attention; they are all proceeding to Canada West.

One hundred and fifty-two passengers in the John and Robert, from Liverpool, had also a long voyage of 50 days; many of the families were short of provisions, and being obliged to purchase from the master, they landed here very poor; they also state that they were waiting a considerable time in Liverpool for a vessel; with few exceptions they are proceeding to Canada West to their friends. One hundred and seven passengers in the brig Alice, from Glasgow, and 78 in the Sir William Wallace, from Aberdeen, are all respectable farmers and agriculturalists; and with the exception of one or two families in the former vessel, appear in good circumstances, and are going to join their friends and relatives in the Huron tract, and London district; a few families are proceeding to the neighbourhood of Perth and Bytown, and up the Ottawa river. Six families, 38 in number, in the St. Lawrence, from Cork, are going to their friends in the Bathurst district; they are all in good health, and appear well able to pay their way; there is a good demand for skilled labour among the farmers in that section of the province, and good hands have no difficulty in procuring employment; common labourers find it much more difficult, and, for steady employment, are dependant on the public works; about 400 hands are at present employed on the Gosford Road in this district, one-half of whom are emigrants of this season; wages 2*l.* per month and their board.

Week ending 27th August.

A large portion of the emigrants arrived during the past week have suffered much from want of provisions and from sickness, the average length of these passages being over eight weeks.

The ship Mountaineer, with 505 passengers, was 68 days on her voyage, and her passengers suffered very much from the effects of small-pox and typhus fever, 30 deaths having occurred previous to her arrival at quarantine, and two more during her detention there. Many of the passengers were so much reduced from want of food, that the medical officer was under the necessity of retaining a number in hospital for a few days, to enable them to recover their strength; the stock of provisions of a great many became exhausted, after being out about five or six weeks, and they were under the necessity of purchasing food from the master at most exorbitant rates: this as well as many other complaints made by the passengers is now undergoing legal investigation, which when closed will be duly reported. A large number of these people are proceeding to join their friends, chiefly in Canada West. There were a good many Scotch emigrants among them, who are in good circumstances, and who are going to their friends in the London and Western districts.

The passengers per the Euphrosyne from Bristol, are farmers and farm-labourers; two or three families have brought out a good deal of property with them, and intend settling in the London district. This vessel was 69 days on her voyage, but they all appeared well supplied.

The passengers per the Caledonia, 86 in number, from Glasgow, are respectable farmers and mechanics; they are all proceeding to join their friends in Canada West.

The 123 passengers in the Elephant, from Greenock, are, with the exception of a few families, in good circumstances; they had a long passage of 51 days, but were well supplied with provisions.

In the Edinburgh, from Liverpool, were 300 passengers. This vessel was 54 days on her voyage, and many of the passengers were short of provisions; they however landed in good health, and consist of farmers, labourers, and a large number of mechanics; the former are all proceeding to join their friends, and the latter in search of employment.

CANADA.

No. 1.

Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

The passengers by the Borneo, 135 in number, from Limerick, and John Bell, from New Ross, are chiefly labourers coming out to join their friends; a number in the former vessel are going to the United States to their friends.

Week ending 3d September.

The emigrants arrived during the past week have landed in good health, and consist of farmers, labourers, and mechanics. These vessels, unfortunately, all have had long passages, the average for the week being 60 days; consequently very many families were short of provisions, and obliged to buy from the master for some weeks previous to arrival, which has exhausted all their means.

Over one-half are proceeding to join their relatives and friends settled in different sections of the province, chiefly in Canada West; a few are proceeding to Ohio and the western part of the state of New York; and the remainder, principally mechanics, are in search of employment. Owing to the above causes the applications for assistance, I regret to say, have been very numerous; and I have been under the necessity of extending relief in free passages and provisions to a very large number. In the Catherine from Liverpool, and Ceres and Astrea from Sligo, the passengers were very poor, and I was obliged to assist upwards of 50 families from these vessels.

The passengers by the City of Waterford are generally in good circumstances, about 20 of them are proceeding to Ohio; one family, five in number, were sent out by their parish. Eighty passengers, per Susan, from London, have also been sent out by their parishes; they had a long voyage of 70 days, but, being found by the vessel suffered no inconvenience; they received, on landing here two days' provisions and 20s. sterl. in cash each adult, and proceeded immediately on their route to Canada West. The passengers per Lady Falkland, 361 in number, all landed in good health; among them are many respectable farmers, who have brought out capital with them; a large number have relatives settled in the province, and they are proceeding to them in the Bathurst, Johnstown, Home, and London districts.

Employment of all kinds is now very difficult to be obtained in the neighbourhood of this city and Montreal, as also in the towns of Canada West; and it is at these points, unfortunately, all the idle, destitute, and those in search of employment, will collect; and it is only by distributing them throughout the agricultural districts, where employment may be obtained (for all who will take the trouble to inquire or look for it), that we can expect they will be able to provide for themselves and families during the coming winter: this, however, is attended with expense, but it is unavoidable. This outlay thus incurred may be considered as final; and had they not been thus scattered in the early part of the season, the expense would have been much greater, and the result by no means so satisfactory.

The almost certainty of an abundant harvest will, by reducing the price of all the necessaries of life, enable the poor immigrants of this season to get through the winter months with comparative comfort.

Week ending the 17th September.

The emigrants arrived the two past weeks consist of farmers, labourers, and mechanics, and have landed generally in good health. The average passages of these vessels is 48 days.

The 378 passengers in the Anne Hall, from Belfast, consist of farmers and labourers; they are all proceeding to Canada West, to join their friends. This vessel sailed originally on the 2d July, with 450 passengers, but after being a few days at sea, was obliged to return to Belfast, her crew having mutinied, when about 70 of her passengers returned to their homes; she afterwards sailed on the 14th July, and arrived here after a voyage of 55 days. Owing to their long passage and detention at Belfast, their supply of provisions ran short, and they were under the necessity of purchasing from the master, and consequently many landed here very poor, and unable to pay their passage up the country to their friends; I was therefore obliged to extend relief to upwards of 30 families. The passengers per Margaret Wilkie, from Greenock, 111 in number, are respectable farmers, and all appear to possess means; they, with the exception of three young men who are going to Cape Breton, all proceeded direct to Montreal in the vessel, on their route to the western section of the province. The English emigrants from Padstow, Hull, and Plymouth, are all in good circumstances, and, with the exception of two families going to Ohio, are all proceeding to settle in Canada West, principally in the Newcastle, Home, and Gore Districts. In the Eliza were 60 passengers sent out by their respective parishes; they were well supplied during the voyage, and each adult received 20s. sterling on landing here.

The passengers in the Mohawk, from Glasgow, are all respectable farmers; they intend settling in the neighbourhood of Toronto and Hamilton.

Fifty-nine passengers in the Hercules, from Stornoway, are all very poor, and are proceeding to join their friends in Canada West. This vessel landed 350 passengers at Sydney.

Week ending 15th October.

Nothing worthy of remark has occurred during this past fortnight; the arrival of emigrants has been limited, and chiefly consist of families coming out to join their friends and relations already settled in the province; all landed in good health, and, with the exception of a few families in the Rose Bank, from Belfast, were able to pay their way to their respective destinations.

Navigation closed 29th November 1842.

(B.) No. 10.

Sir, Emigrant Office, Quebec, 19th May 1842.

It is my painful duty to report, for the information of his Excellency, the Governor-general, the loss of the ship Jane Black, Captain Gorman, from Limerick, with 417 passengers, at a place about 10 miles east of Point des Monts lighthouse, 250 miles below Quebec. Captain Gorman arrived here on Monday last, about 12 o'clock, and furnished me with the following particulars:—It would appear that about one o'clock on the morning of the 10th instant, during a heavy squall, accompanied with a snow storm, the vessel struck, and immediately bilged and filled with water, which destroyed the greater part of the passengers provisions and luggage. The ship continued to strike heavily on the rocks until daylight, when, fearing that if the gale should increase she might go to pieces, Captain Gorman landed all his passengers in safety; and as the coast was desolate and without inhabitants, he had the snow cleared, and tents made from the sails and other articles saved from the wreck. The passengers saved only what provisions they had between decks, which probably, with care, might last them three days; the stores which were saved belonging to the ship would be sufficient for three days more.

Captain Gorman, after having seen all made as comfortable as circumstances would permit, engaged some Indians (whom he was fortunate enough to meet there, and who were of great service in making fires and assisting the passengers to build their camps) to take him over to the south shore, in order to proceed with as little delay as possible for assistance. On his route up he endeavoured to procure schooners, but without success; and, by travelling day and night, he arrived here, as stated above, on the sixth day after the wreck.

Immediately on his arrival I took, in connexion with Captain Boxer, the necessary steps to send relief to the unfortunate sufferers; and with the sanction of the Trinity Board, despatched their yacht, which had arrived only that morning from below, with a supply of provisions; but looking to the uncertainty of the schooner's arrival, and the fatal effects of the delay which might occur, in the event of her having to beat down to the wreck against one of those easterly gales so prevalent at this season; and considering also the very destitute and helpless condition of the unfortunate sufferers, encamped in the midst of ice and snow, on a desolate coast, and by that time without provisions; I deemed it my duty to procure, if possible, the service of a steamer for their relief.

I applied accordingly, without delay, to the different owners of steamers, for that purpose, and finding that no other could be procured for less than 600*l.*, accepted Mr. James M'Kenzie's offer to send his steamer, the Lumber Merchant, with a supply of provisions, to bring up all the passengers for 500*l.* A few hours necessarily elapsed after this arrangement was concluded, and while the steamer was being provided with the requisite supply of fuel for her unexpected voyage; but at 11 o'clock on the same night (Monday), I had the satisfaction to know that she had started for the wreck, with Captain Gorman on board; and I confidently look for her return to-morrow, if the weather should continue favourable.

I have prepared a building to afford shelter to those who may require it, for a few days after their arrival here.

Having thus done all that it was incumbent on me to do, for the relief of the unfortunate sufferers, it only remains for me to hope that my conduct will meet with his Excellency's approval.

Nothing, I conceive, but the extreme urgency of the case, could have justified me in incurring the responsibility of so great an expenditure; and I should certainly not have ventured to incur it if the wreck had taken place on an inhabited coast, or under any circumstances enabling the passengers to await without danger, the more tardy relief to be afforded by sailing vessels.

Four schooners would have sufficed to bring them up, and could have been procured for 40*l.* each; but, for the reasons above stated, I did not think it prudent to trust to them in the present emergency.

The employment of the Trinity yacht, I may observe, is altogether unattended with expense; and in case of any accident occurring to the steamer, she may prove of essential service to the poor sufferers.

When the steamer returns I shall not fail to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency, with the result of these measures.

I have, &c.

T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq.
Chief Secretary.

(signed) A. C. Buchanan,
Chief Agent.

CANADA.

No. 1.
Sir C. Bagot
to
Lord Stanley,
26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

(B.) No. 11.

Sir, Emigrant Office, Quebec, 30th July 1842.

I have the honour to enclose you the affidavit sworn to by three passengers who arrived here in the brig Lively, ——, Master, from Galway, on the 8th instant.

It will appear from the affidavits of these people, whose statement was fully confirmed by the rest of the passengers, that they had engaged their passage with a Mr. ——, agent for Mr. ——, owner of the Lively, for St. John's, New Brunswick, and were notified to be in Galway by a certain day, viz. 20th of April, or else forfeit their deposit; and that the vessel was advertised to sail for St. John's, New Brunswick, by handbills and placards, one of which is attached to the affidavit.

Out of 192 passengers, about 130 appear to have engaged their passage for St. John's; and it also appears that they understood the vessel would call and land them there, and afterwards proceed to Quebec.

These people, on arrival, made a complaint to this office of the breach of contract, and to solicit redress; they also complained of being detained in Galway from the 20th May until the 3d of June, at their own cost.

I immediately wrote to the captain, stating these circumstances; and informed him that unless immediate redress was given to those people, and the agreement entered into between them and Mr. —— fulfilled, I should prosecute him to the utmost extent of the law; which to avoid, he immediately complied with.

A large number of the passengers consented to remain here, as their object was to obtain employment; these he compromised with for 10*s.* each, which enabled them to proceed up the country; and to six families, whose relations resided in St. John's, he furnished the means of procuring a passage in a schooner about to leave for that port; with which they were satisfied.

In justice to the master, I here beg to state that he did everything in his power to remedy the evil, and appeared to be in no way to blame, as he only joined the vessel a day or so before sailing, and states that he was quite ignorant of any agreement, on the part of Mr. ——, to land these people at St. John's, N. B.

I trust, if possible, some means may be adopted in the United Kingdom to prevent the recurrence of so gross a violation of the Passenger Act. This vessel had also an excess of 14 passengers over her complement, according to the superficial space of her passenger-deck; for which the master has incurred a penalty of 20*l.* sterling; and I have furnished information to the Crown officer, with instructions to prosecute for the same.

T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq.
Chief Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) A. C. Buchanan, Chief Agent.

Province of Canada, Quebec to wit. } Personally came and appeared before the Hon. Philippe Panet, one of the Justices of Her Majesty's Court of King's Bench, in and for the district of Quebec, in that part of the province of Canada called Lower Canada, Richard Morley, of the parish of Killimore, in the county of Galway, in that part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called Ireland, shoemaker; Thomas Larkin, of the same place, shoemaker; and Denis Nevin, of the same place, labourer; who, being severally duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelists, depose and say that they came passengers in the ship or vessel called the Lively, of which one —— was and is master, and which ship or vessel sailed from the port of Galway, in that part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland called Ireland, on or about the 3d day of June last, and arrived at the port of Quebec, in the said province of Canada, on or about the 7th day of July inst. And the said deponents further say, that the said ship or vessel called the Lively, long previous to her sailing from the port of Galway as aforesaid, was advertised as about to sail from the said port of Galway for the City of St. John's, in the province of New Brunswick, on the continent of North America, on the 10th day of May in the present year of our Lord 1842; and that numerous printed notices, similar to the printed notice hereunto annexed, and marked A, were posted up at the church-door and other public places in the said parish of Killimore, during the month of April, in this present year of our Lord 1842. And these deponents further say, that intending to take passage by the said ship or vessel called the Lively, from Galway aforesaid, to the City of St. John's in New Brunswick aforesaid, they, the said deponents, some time in the month of April or the beginning of May last, paid to ——, of Lessemiske, in the said parish of Killimore, who acted as agent for ——, of Galway, aforesaid, the owner of the said ship or vessel called the Lively, as a deposit for their passage money from Galway to St. John's, as aforesaid, the sum of 5*s.* sterling money of Great Britain per head; to wit, he, the said Richard Morley, the sum of 5*s.* for himself; he, the said Thomas Larkin, 5*s.* for himself, and a further sum of 5*s.* for Mary Larkin, his wife; and he, the said Denis Nevin, 5*s.* for himself; and that each of them, the said deponents, got from the said —— acknowledgments in writing for the said deposit money as and for a passage from Galway to St. John's, as aforesaid. And the said deponents further say, and each for himself saith, that being poor, and unwilling to be detained longer in the port of Galway than was absolutely necessary, they applied to the said ——, as agent for the said ——, to obtain information at what time it was for them to be at Galway aforesaid, for

for the purpose of embarking on board the said ship or vessel; and that they were informed by the said ——, on or about the 18th Day of May last, that unless they were ready to embark on board the said ship or vessel on Monday the 23d day of May then instant and now last past, that they would lose their passage, and forfeit the deposit money respectively paid as aforesaid. And the said deponents further say, that they left Killimore aforesaid, which is distant about 30 miles from Galway aforesaid on Friday, the 20th of May last, and arrived there the same evening, being desirous of laying in stock for the voyage on the next day, being market-day, which they the said deponents accordingly did. And these deponents further say, that they were detained, at their own cost and expense, in the town of Galway, from the time of their arrival as aforesaid until the said ship or vessel sailed, namely, until the 3d day of June last. And the said deponents each for himself saith, that he paid, at the office of ——, the owner of the said ship or vessel the Lively, in Galway aforesaid, the balance of his passage money, to wit, the sum of 2*l.* sterling money per head; and thereupon were required to deliver up, and did deliver up, at the office of the said ——, the receipts for the deposit money so given as aforesaid; and thereupon they received respectively orders to be received on board the said ship or vessel. And the said deponents further say, and each for himself saith, that he embarked on board the said ship or vessel called the Lively, as aforesaid, believing that she was destined on a voyage from Galway aforesaid to the port of St. John's in New Brunswick aforesaid, and did not know to the contrary until the said ship or vessel, with the said deponents on board, had been about ten days at sea, when, happening to speak another vessel which was going on the same course, they, the said deponents, heard the said ——, the master of the said vessel called the Lively, request the master of the said other vessel, to report the Lively for Quebec. And these deponents further say, that they never saw James Price, the person named as commander of the said ship or vessel called the Lively in the notice hereunto annexed; and that the said ——, to the best of their belief, took command of the said vessel about a day or two before she sailed from Galway, as aforesaid. And these deponents further say that they did not complain to the said ——, the master of the said ship or vessel, whilst on the voyage aforesaid, of having been carried to Quebec, instead of St. John's, as aforesaid, for fear of ill usage; but, that immediately upon their arrival at Quebec, they complained at the police-office there, and subsequently to Alexander Carlisle Buchanan, esq., the chief agent for emigrants there, for redress. And the said deponents further say, that, to their knowledge, there were on board the said ship or vessel called the Lively, on the voyage aforesaid, not less than 30 persons from the said parish of Killimore and neighbourhood, who had engaged for a passage from Galway to St. John's, as aforesaid; and further, from the conversations which these deponents have heard between the passengers on board the said ship or vessel and the master and crew thereof, the said deponents believe, that out of about 186 passengers embarked on board the said ship or vessel on the voyage aforesaid, not less than 130 had engaged passages from Galway to St. John's, New Brunswick, as aforesaid. And the said Thomas Larkin hath signed, and the said Richard Morley and Denis Nevin have made their marks, declaring respectively that they cannot write or sign their names.

Sworn at the city of Quebec, this 12th day of July 1842, before me,

(signed) PHILIP PANET, T. B. R.

(signed) *Thomas Larkin,*
his
Richard + Morley.
mark.
his
Denis + Nevin.
mark.

(A true Copy).

(B.) No. 12.

EXTRACT of a REPORT received from A. B. HAWKE Esq., dated Kingston, 7th December 1842.

THE effect of so large a number of settlers as have been added to the population of Canada during the current year, either with reference to themselves or the colony, cannot be very correctly ascertained at present. I estimate the total number at 50,000; say 44,000 by way of Quebec, and 6,000 by way of the neighbouring states. Nearly 40,000 have settled in Canada West, and the remainder it is to be presumed have, with very few exceptions, settled in the eastern division of the province.

With reference to those who have settled in the upper section of the province, I have much pleasure in being able to state that nine-tenths have succeeded in obtaining employment, although at a lower rate of wages than was given to the same class last year.

The settlement of the immigrants has been greatly accelerated in consequence of the

CANADA.

No. 1.

Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

great majority of them having come out for the express purpose of joining their friends and relations settled in the province. When we take into consideration that three fourths of the immigrants belong to the labouring class, and that the public works now in progress are chiefly supplied with labourers from the United States, as well as the depressed state of trade, it is a gratifying fact to find that our rural districts have been able to absorb so many new-comers without any apparent difficulty.

Encl. (B.) in No. 1.

Of late years so large a portion of the immigrants have been labourers as to materially reduce wages, and the labour market appears to be so well supplied at present, that we can hardly hope that an equal number of indigent settlers will be provided for with the same facility next season as those of the current year. The immigrants who stand the best chance of benefiting their condition are persons possessing sufficient capital to purchase farms, or to establish themselves as mechanics, viz. such as wheelwrights, blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, shoemakers, and tailors; persons of this description can hardly fail of success if industrious and prudent.

There is another class of persons to whom Canada at present holds out great inducements, I mean persons possessing small incomes, who find it difficult to educate and bring up their families at home; the low price of provisions in our markets, the trifling amount of our taxes, and the cheap rate at which a good education can be obtained, renders this country a very desirable residence for persons so circumstanced.

Our social condition cannot of course boast of the refinement and luxury of an older country; but to a man who is satisfied with a plentiful supply of the comforts and necessaries of life, and the means of bringing up a family, and afterwards educating them for professions or trades, in which with common industry they can scarcely fail of success, is almost sure to become a useful and happy member of society. I do not say that those who immigrate to this country, even under circumstances so favourable, will be likely to acquire fortunes, or that they will meet with nothing to regret in their new position; but, with a well-contented mind and industrious habits, they will find their condition substantially ameliorated, and much of that uneasiness as to a provision for their families so often experienced at home dispelled.

I am, &c.
(signed) A. B. Hawke,
Chief Emigrant Agent, W. D.

(C.)

(Extracts.)

Emigrant Office, Kingston, 21st December 1842.

Encl. (C.) in No. 1.

During the current year nearly 34,000 immigrants have been landed at this agency; they generally arrived in parties numbering from 50 to 300 or 400 persons.

The course adopted at this office with reference to their distribution, and the relief which is occasionally afforded, has been as follows:

We will assume that a party of 200 immigrants are to be disposed of; the names of the heads of families and their occupation are first ascertained, as well as their destination, if they have left home with the intention of settling in any particular part of the province. We will suppose that 75 wish to proceed to Toronto, 25 to Cobourg and Port Hope, 25 to the ports on the Bay of Quinte, and that the remaining 75 are in search of work.

As the steam-boats leave Kingston for Cobourg, Port Hope, and Toronto every evening at eight o'clock, except on Sunday and Monday, during the season, the immigrants anxious to proceed to these ports are first examined, and the questions generally put to them are as follows:—When did you leave Montreal? Did you apply to or receive any relief from the agent at that port? If these questions are answered in the affirmative, the Montreal list is referred to, and if it confirms his statement, his reasons for wishing to proceed to any particular place are demanded. The reason generally assigned is, "I have relatives settled there, and I came to Canada to join them." If the immigrants have any letters or written directions from their friends, they are required to produce them. We then endeavour to discover whether their poverty is real or pretended. If the immigrant gives a straightforward account of the means which he started with, and the manner in which he has expended it on his journey, his claim is admitted. If he hesitates or declines, his claim is rejected; at all events, until further inquiry can be made.

As soon as the whole of the party have been examined, the free lists for the different ports are made out, as well as another list showing the amount of food which each family is to receive. The party is then taken to the bakery, and from thence to the steam-boat.

The 25 immigrants for the Bay of Quinte undergo a similar examination. As the steamboats for the ports on the bay leave at nine o'clock in the morning, the immigrants are sent to the sheds and supplied with food for the night, if necessary.

The 75 who have no particular destination, and who want employment, remain to be disposed of.

They

They are generally sent to the sheds for the night, and ordered to be at the office early on the following morning. They undergo the same examination as their comrades. The applications to the office for farm servants, labourers, &c. are examined, and such of the immigrants as will probably suit the applicants, are sent forward. If the supply of labourers exceed the demand, which is frequently the case, the overplus is distributed through those districts which are most likely to require their services. The immigrants thus sent are furnished with the names of some respectable persons residing in the part of the district to which they are directed, with a request that they will have the goodness to send the immigrants to any persons in the vicinity who are in want of labourers. But if they are sent to Toronto, or Hamilton, this duty devolves upon the agents stationed at these ports.

As to the extent of the relief which is afforded to indigent immigrants at this and the other agencies in Canada West, it is confined to medical attendance and comforts to the sick, and free passages and food to the healthy. The rates of conveyance for 1842 are as follows:—

						s.	d.	
From Bytown	to Kingston	- - - -	each adult	-	-	2	6	currency.
— Kingston	to Dickinson's Landing -		—	-	-	6	3	—
— —	to Ports on the Bay of Quinte		—	-	-	4	0	—
— —	to Cobourg and Port Hope		—	-	-	8	9	—
— —	to Toronto - - -		—	-	-	7	6	—
— Toronto	to Hamilton - - -		—	-	-	8	9	—
— —	to Niagara - - -		—	-	-	8	9	—

Being 25 per cent. under the established charges.

Transport by land is of course more expensive than by water. The average expense may be stated at 1*d.* per mile for each adult. The supply of food is in all Cases proportioned to the time occupied on the journey. We give a four-pound loaf of bread, the cost of which averages about 7½*d.* currency to each person over 14 years old, sent to Toronto, and in proportion to other places. Emigrants who remain in the sheds rarely get more than one or two days supply of food, unless the head of the family is confined by sickness to the hospital. In such cases the assistance is continued until the patient recovers, or employment can be found for such members of his family as are able to work.

The immigrants by the St. Lawrence do not reach Kingston before the latter part of April, and I generally manage to dispense with the services of the agents at Bytown, Toronto, and Hamilton, until the middle of May. These agencies are generally closed about the 20th of November. The immigrants who arrive before and after the dates above mentioned, are disposed of without any assistance from the out agents. Upwards of 3,600 emigrants landed at Kingston this year who came from the United States. A large proportion of them came in as early as March and April. I rendered them very little assistance, and that little was, I fear, in some instances granted to improper objects. Being aware that assistance was only granted to immigrants of the current season, many of them pretended that they had recently landed at New York, although their language, as well as the quality of their clothing, proved a much longer residence in the United States.

The correspondence of the office is necessarily extensive, and embraces a great variety of subjects. Besides corresponding with the agents and influential persons in different parts of the province, we are called upon to write letters for the emigrants to their relatives at home, and occasionally to remit funds to enable them to emigrate.

The accounts of the steam-boat proprietors, forwarding merchants, and for the disbursements at the different agencies, are generally rendered in December, and after examination, they are brought into one account current, and transmitted for inspection and audit.

The hospital establishments at Bytown, Kingston, and Hamilton, for the reception of sick indigent emigrants belong to the emigration department, and the physicians who superintended them, are paid out of the emigration fund. At Toronto, the indigent sick are sent to the general hospital, and 1*s.* per day is paid for each patient during the time he is an inmate of the institution, and the amount charged to this office.

Between the months of May and November, I occasionally visit all the parts to which immigrants are forwarded, in order to distribute any of them who cannot get into the interior without assistance, and to procure work for the unemployed.

All the agents and physicians are required to make monthly returns; these returns are sent to Mr. Buchanan, chief agent, Quebec, to enable him to report to the Government.

I have endeavoured to state, generally, the duties of my office; but it is impossible to enumerate the particular services which I am called upon to render, or the difficulties I have often to contend with.

I have, &c.

(signed) A. B. Hawke,
Chief Emigration Agent, W. D.

Rawson W. Rawson, Esq.
Chief Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

CANADA.

No. 1.
Sir C. Bagot
to
Lord Stanley,
26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (D.) in No. 1.

(D.)

Sir, Quebec, 1st December 1842.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor-general, the accompanying tabular Return (A.) of sick emigrants admitted, discharged, and died at the quarantine hospital, Grosse Isle, for the season ending October 31st. On comparing the same with the admissions, &c. of previous years (B.), it will be seen that the proportion of sick to the number of emigrants arrived has been somewhat greater this year than last. The mortality of passengers on the voyage has not, however, been so great; while the number of deaths on ship-board last year was 229 out of 28,060 emigrants, or 0·79 per cent.; the number this year has been 302 out of 44,584, or 0·67 per cent.; as in former years, the great majority of these deaths were infants at the breast, young children, and aged persons. The loss of infant life on the passage is very great every year, and is readily accounted for from the circumstance of the mothers, upon whom the children depend for support, being placed under circumstances in every way most unfavourable to affording it. She is in most instances from the country, accustomed to respire pure air, and to take active exercise; from this state she is transferred to the hold of a vessel, where she suffers from sea-sickness, is anxious and alarmed, and her food and water in many cases bad and unwholesome; from these causes the infant, deprived of its usual supply of nourishment, pines and dies from inanition. Aged persons, or those in second childhood, are obnoxious to the same causes, and suffer in proportion. A greater number of the deaths took place this year on board of emigrant vessels that were in their passage out in the early part of May; at which time a succession of severe gales of wind from the S. W. were encountered by all those at that time in long. 30° to 40° W. One gale, which lasted from the 4th to the 6th May, was so violent, as to oblige the emigrant vessels exposed to it to keep their hatches battened down for upwards of 48 hours; during which time much suffering was experienced by the poor people, deprived of fresh air, of the means of cooking, and their *morale* affected by the dread of shipwreck. Many of these vessels arrived with loss of bulwarks, boats, and galleys, and in all cases with a greater proportion of sickness and deaths than those not exposed to the fury of the gale.

This season, as in former years, wherever measles and small-pox broke out on board of crowded vessels, the mortality has been very great. Among the worst cases, I would instance the ship Mountaineer, from Liverpool, among whose passengers both these diseases raged, and the number of deaths was 32 out of 305. These passengers suffered also from a deficiency of food, and were reduced to the utmost extremity when they arrived at Grosse Isle; I was under the necessity of admitting 41 to hospital. On board of the bark Ayrshire, from Dublin and Newry, there were 25 deaths out of 428. In the Renfrewshire, from Glasgow, 16 out of 554. In the Compton, from Liverpool, 12 out of 329. In the Minstrel, from Liverpool, 10 out of 180. On board of all these vessels both measles and small-pox prevailed extensively, and had the usual effect of vitiating the atmosphere of the hold, and causing fever amongst those of the adult passengers who were not obnoxious to the contagion of these specific diseases.

The number of vessels on board of which typhus fever appeared has not been so great as in former years; aggravated cases of this dreadful pestilence occurred, however, on board of three or four vessels, one of which was the brig Mary, from Liverpool, where the disease was evidently the result of want of cleanliness, ventilation, and from insufficiency of food. This vessel was owned by the master, who took in as much cargo at Liverpool as completely to fill the lower hold; the remaining space (technically called the 'tween decks) he then chartered for a specific sum to a passenger broker, who put into it 214 souls, with their baggage and stores (these last, in emigrant vessels, being usually stowed in the lower hold). The master, unaccustomed to the passenger trade, and having made no contracts with the emigrants individually, did not consider himself bound to enforce cleanliness or good order in the part of the vessel occupied by them; he looked upon them in fact simply as part of his cargo; the consequence of this neglect was the speedy generation of typhus in its worse form, which, once begun, went on increasing in a direct proportion to the number of cases, until their arrival at the quarantine station. When I visited the vessel, and put the usual questions to the master, I learnt that five adults had died on the voyage, and that several were ill below. I requested him in the usual manner to accompany me and point out the worst cases, and the treatment he had pursued towards them; this he at once refused, saying, he knew nothing about them, and that no inducement would make him expose himself by going down into the hold where they were. Upon descending to the hold I witnessed such a scene as can only be witnessed in emigrant vessels where fever prevails; 56 poor wretches lay about in different stages of disease, some violently delirious, others stupid and comatose; those who had no relatives (of which the number was great) were left entirely to an occasional chance supply of moisture for their parched lips. The state of atmosphere in such a confined place could hardly be worse; ventilation (at all times difficult from the construction of the vessel and the superior gravity of foul air) was utterly neglected, and no care was taken to preserve cleanliness by removing even the fœtid discharges of the sick. After removing 56 to hospital, I caused the others to be landed on the island and placed in the sheds until their foul clothes and bedding had been thoroughly washed and scrubbed, during which time the chief agent for emigrants authorized the distribution of oatmeal to those destitute of food, or the means of purchasing it. The other most aggravated cases of typhus were on board the brigs Ann Moore and the John White, from Limerick; the former of these left port with 179 passengers, out of which it was found

necessary

necessary to send 61 cases to hospital, including the master and three of the crew; and from the latter, 26 cases of fever out of 138 passengers. In both these cases the disease was brought on by the exposure and fatigue of the passengers in severe tempestuous weather, which after contending against for two weeks, they had to return to the port in Ireland from whence they sailed, where they were landed and placed in sheds during the time the vessels were undergoing repairs. On commencing their voyage again, fever broke out among them. From the bark Sarah Stewart, 18 cases of fever were admitted to hospital out of 261 passengers. Among the admissions to hospital were 15 cases of fever from the bark Lord Canterbury, from Bristol; eight of these passengers died on the voyage; disease among these people was brought on by their extreme sufferings from cold, wet, and fatigue at the pumps, the vessel having had the misfortune to strike the ice three weeks previous to her arrival at Grosse Isle, and was only kept afloat by the continued exertions of the crew and passengers, who worked the pumps and bailed with buckets night and day.

As offering a favourable contrast to the above-recited instances of suffering and deaths, I beg to allude to the case of 26 passenger vessels that arrived at the quarantine station on 3d July. There were on board of these ships upwards of 5,000 emigrants, out of which number I had occasion to send only six to hospital, and but 15 deaths had taken place on the voyage. This comparative absence of sickness and deaths, in so large a body of people of all ages, was owing entirely to the extremely favourable weather experienced on their transit to this country. The passage of these vessels did not on an average exceed 30 days, during the whole of which time the weather was never such as to prevent the passengers being on deck. Some of the shipmasters declared they might have made the passage in an open boat, the sea was so smooth and the wind so light; during the 10 years of my official connexion with the quarantine department of the province, I have never witnessed so large a body of emigrants arrive in such good health. The number of births of emigrants on the voyage out, and at the quarantine station, amounted this year to 117; two of these cases were twins; in the great majority of these cases both mother and child did well; two deaths in child-birth took place.

Great advantage has been experienced this year from the substitution of a small steamer for a sailing craft. Convalescents from hospital have been by this means enabled to arrive in Quebec in from three to four hours, without suffering the fatigue consequent upon a voyage of uncertain duration in a small schooner, without beds or bedding.

Another great addition to the comfort of the sick has been made this year by substituting iron bedsteads, such as are used in military hospitals, for the old worn-out wooden stretchers, which it was found impossible to keep in repair, or free from vermin; though these two improvements, together with some other extraordinary disbursements, caused the expenditure of the quarantine station this year to exceed that of last by 595*l.* 2*s.* 3½*d.*, yet the actual expenditure of the hospital department has been only a trifle more in proportion to the number of sick this year than last, as may be seen by reference to the following statement, taken from a document furnished by Mr. Cary, deputy inspector-general of accounts, 10th November:

	1841:			1842:		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Martin Ray, Sundries for Emigrants -	187	3	11¼	282	15	11¾
Milk and Firewood for ditto - - -	29	11	4	91	19	2¼
£	216	15	3¼	374	15	2¼

The number of sick emigrants in 1841 having been 290, gives a fraction less than 15*s.* as the average cost for each patient. The number this season having been 488, gives 15*s.* 4¼*d.* as the average for each patient, being a difference of only 4¼*d.* each; and this trifling increase was owing to the greater average length of time that patients remained in hospital this season, owing to the many cases of relapse from fever. The same frequency of relapse has been noticed in the fever cases of emigrants treated in the hospital of this city.

The quarantine department sustained a great loss this season by the melancholy death of the Rev. l'Abbé Fortier, the Roman-catholic missionary attached to the hospital for these last two seasons; the unremitting kindness, zeal, and devotion of this gentleman to the sick was beyond all praise; he fell a victim to typhus fever, contracted at a time when the hospital was crowded with bad cases of that dreadful disease.

I cannot conclude this report without again bringing under the notice of his Excellency the Governor-general the urgent necessity that exists for causing a wharf or landing-place to be constructed on that part of the island where the sick are landed; much suffering is every year caused from the want of such accommodation.

I have, &c.

Rawson W. Rawson, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) G. M. Douglas, M.D.
Medical Superintendent.

CANADA.

No. 1.
Sir C. Bagot
to
Lord Stanley,
26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (D.) in No. 1.

(A.)—Return of Emigrants Admitted, Discharged, and Died at the Quarantine Hospital, Grosse Isle, during the Season ending 31st October 1842.

Description.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Total.	Fever.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Other Diseases.	Total.
Men - - -	160	143	17	160	130	13	1	3	13	160
Women - - -	134	123	11	134	116	11	5	—	2	134
Children - - -	194	168	26	194	88	56	44	6	—	194
Total - -	488	434	54	488	340	80	50	9	15	488

(B.)—Table showing the Number of the Per Centages of Diseases and of Deaths of Emigrants at the Quarantine Hospital, Grosse Isle, from 1833 to 1842, both inclusive.

Year.	Number of Emigrants Arrived.	Number Admitted to Hospital.	Per Centage of Admissions.	Number of Deaths.	Per Centage of Deaths.	Diseases. Cholera.	Per Centage of Cholera.	Fevers.	Per Centage of Fevers.	Small Pox.	Per Centage of Small Pox.	Other Diseases.	Per Centage of other Diseases.	TOTAL.
1833 -	22,052	299	1·08	27	0·12	- -	- -	159	0·72	24	0·15	66	0·21	239
1834 -	30,382	844	2·72	264	0·85	290	0·93	404	1·30	12	0·07	138	0·45	844
1835 -	11,580	126	1·08	10	0·08	- -	- -	94	0·81	48	0·41	54	0·46	126
1836 -	27,986	454	1·62	58	0·21	- -	- -	338	1·21	50	0·18	66	0·24	454
1837 -	31,894	598	1·87	57	0·18	- -	- -	481	1·51	104	0·33	13	0·04	598
1838 -	2,918	65	2·23	6	0·21	- -	- -	42	1·44	17	0·31	6	0·21	65
1839 -	7,214	169	2·62	9	0·12	- -	- -	147	2·04	1	0·01	41	0·57	189
1840 -	22,065	561	1·54	41	0·19	- -	- -	485	2·15	60	0·17	16	0·07	561
1841 -	28,060	290	1·03	38	0·13	- -	- -	184	0·65	32	0·11	9	0·03	290
1842 -	44,374	488	1·09	54	0·12	- -	- -	340	0·76	56	0·12	74	0·16	488
	229,133	3,854	- -	564	- -	290	- -	3,604	- -	414	- -	363	- -	3,854

(signed) Geo. M. Douglas, M.D.
Medical Superintendent.

(E.)

Encl. (E.) in No. 1.

Sir, Emigrant Office, Quebec, 23d Dec. 1842.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 13th instant; and have this day been furnished by Dr. Douglass with a copy of his report on the transactions of the Quarantine Establishment at Grosse Isle during the past season.

From this report it is gratifying to find, that notwithstanding the large number of sick which, in the early part of the season, crowded the hospital, the per centage of death has been less than last year.

The cause of the great suffering in the case of the passengers by the brig Marys, Redpath master, from Liverpool, to which you drew my particular attention, is, I am happy to state, one of comparatively rare occurrence. In my weekly report to his Excellency of the 2d July, I alluded to the very distressed condition in which the passengers by this vessel arrived, in the following words:—

"In the brig Marys, Redpath master, from Liverpool, were 213 passengers. This vessel arrived in a most wretched state, at Grosse Isle, from sickness; five deaths occurred previous to her arrival there; and 56 cases of typhus fever were sent to hospital, two of whom died in a few hours after. This vessel cleared from Liverpool, according to the certified list of her passengers, forwarded to this office by the Government agent at that port, with 192 passengers; on arrival here, she was found to have 32 on board whose names were not on the list; she was also exceedingly crowded, the passengers being obliged to keep all their luggage and provisions between decks, there being no room in the lower hold; it (with the exception of a small space for water and fuel) was full of salt. On measuring the superficial space between decks, I found she had only space for 165 adults, whereas she had 180½, being an excess of 15½ passengers. The necessary information was immediately placed in the hands of the Crown officer, to prosecute the master for the infringement of the second clause of the Imperial Passenger Act.

"The dreadful condition in which this vessel arrived may, in my opinion, be in a great measure attributed to the crowded state of the vessel, and to her having a cargo of salt in the lower hold, which was full up to the platform or deck occupied by the passengers."

A penalty of 20*l.* sterling, the only one I could enforce, against Captain Redpath was duly awarded by the Court of Vice-Admiralty, and paid. He afterwards petitioned his Excellency for a remission of the fine, which Mr. Chief Secretary Murdoch referred to me, a report of which I had the honour to forward under date of the 21st July, recommending that his prayer should not be granted.

In the case of the Mountaineer, from the same port, also alluded to by Dr. Douglass, I beg to state that, owing to the complaints made by many of the passengers in this vessel as to the deficiency and impurity of the water furnished them during a part of the voyage, and also the exorbitant prices charged by the master for provisions, he having bought up the surplus stock of some of the passengers, and resold to those in need at a large profit.

On inquiring into these statements, I found sufficient evidence to justify my placing the matter in the hands of the Crown officer, who accordingly entered proceedings in the Court of Vice-Admiralty, and obtained judgment for a mitigated penalty of 5*l.* each in both charges. I also prosecuted him before the magistrates, under the Provincial Act, for removing the berthing of 25 of the passengers previous to her arrival at quarantine, for which he was fined 5*s.* currency for each berth removed.

On arrival at Grosse Isle, many of the passengers were so much reduced from want of food, that Dr. Douglass was obliged to have them landed and detained a few days on the island, in order to recruit. As these people had neither food, nor the means of procuring it, I authorized Dr. Douglass to distribute some oatmeal amongst them.

The very sickly state in which the passengers by both these vessels arrived, as well as many others alluded to by Dr. Douglass, I attribute to the inattention paid to their proper ventilation and cleanliness, and to the want of wholesome food.

I trust, however, that the salutary provisions of the new Imperial Act will provide a remedy in some degree for these evils.

Sickness in the Marys may have been further increased from her lower hold being full of salt, which may, by keeping the place occupied by the passengers damp and cold, have caused the disease to generate more rapidly.

I beg to remark with reference to the comparative advantages of a steamer and a sailing-vessel, as a means of communication with Grosse Isle, that though the distance is only 27 miles from Quebec, yet when a schooner was employed to perform this service, two, and in some cases, three days were occupied in making the voyage to town; during which time, as the accommodations were necessarily limited, the convalescents from hospital were exposed to much hardships and suffering. By means of a steamer the trip in no case occupies more than from three to four hours; and I learn from the medical superintendent that this year, since the employment of a steamer, he has been enabled to discharge the sick much sooner, from their not having to encounter the fatigue of lying out one or two nights in the hold of a schooner.

Another great inconvenience, when a schooner was employed, arose from the impossibility of communicating with the island when the wind prevailed strong from the east, a time when, from the arrival of numerous passenger-vessels, it was often necessary to send down supplies of provisions, stores, medical comforts, &c. I learn from Dr. Douglass, that in the year 1839, from May 25th to June 3d, a period of 11 days, it was found impossible to send the schooner down, though some thousand passengers had arrived, and provisions, stores, &c. were required.

Independent of the great advantage to the convalescent emigrant in being able to reach Quebec on his discharge from hospital with comfort and despatch (an advantage not to be estimated by a pecuniary consideration), the employment of a steamer, by affording a sure and certain communication with the island on fixed days, will hereafter enable individuals in town to furnish various supplies, such as fresh meat, bread, &c. at a much less rate than they have hitherto been supplied by contractors, who had to bring them at their own expense in boats from the main land.

Should the increased expense of a steamer be deemed an objection to its employment, another season I would beg to suggest, that rather than return to the employment of a sailing vessel, a steamer should be engaged to make one trip a week in place of two, and that an allowance of 50*l.* for the season should be made to keep a small craft constantly at the station to make a trip to town for supplies once a week, or whenever an emergency should occur;

CANADA.

No. 1.

Sir C. Bagot to Lord Stanley, 26th Jan. 1843.

Encl. (E.) in No. 1.

occur; by this means the chief advantage of a steamer would be obtained, without incurring greater expense than that paid for a schooner.

I am convinced a steam-boat can be had to perform this service once a week throughout the season for 250*l.* to 300*l.*, and 50*l.* more would cover the expense of keeping constantly at Grosse Isle a small craft, as before stated. By this means the total expense would not exceed that incurred for a schooner in former years.

The great necessity of a wharf at the island, where the sick and other passengers could, with their baggage, &c. land in safety at all times, has been felt and admitted every year since the establishment was formed; and though the melancholy loss of life which took place in 1832, has not again occurred, it is owing solely to the great care and vigilance employed in preventing boats leaving the shore with passengers in stormy weather; but even with the utmost care, the bedding and luggage of emigrants is frequently completely wet from the surf.

In 1838 a survey of the island, with a view to the erection of a wharf, was made; a site was selected, and a contract made for the work, which was completed the following autumn; it unfortunately happened, however, that the spot was injudiciously chosen, and the work so slightly performed, that the ice carried it away the ensuing spring, leaving the establishment still labouring under all the evils arising from the want of such a convenience. From personal knowledge of the island, and from the opinion of practical men, among whom I would mention Captain Boxer, R.N., who visited and sounded that part of the island where a wharf can be made at a comparative small cost, at which vessels of any size could lay, and land, or take off their passengers and baggage at all times; and, owing to the low price at which the necessary timber and labour can now be procured, I have no doubt it could be built in the course of the ensuing summer, on very advantageous terms.

From the many improvements that have been made each year in the hospital buildings, and passengers sheds, the only expense now necessary to render this useful establishment complete, is the erection of this wharf or landing place.

I have, &c.
(signed) A. C. Buchanan,
Chief Agent.

Rawson W. Rawson, Esq.
Chief Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

No. 2.

(No. 5.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor Sir W. M. G. COLEBROOKE to Lord STANLEY.

No. 2. Sir W.M.G.Colebrooke to Lord Stanley, 30th Jan. 1843.

Fredericton, New Brunswick, 30th January 1843.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to enclose to your Lordship two reports which have been made to me by the emigrant agents at St. John's and Fredericton.

I have, &c.
(signed) W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

Enclosure 1. in No. 2.

Government Emigrant Office, St. John, New Brunswick, 2d January 1843.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor, that the number of immigrant arrivals in the province during 1842 is 8,329, exclusive of desultory unofficial migrations through Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and the United States, as per accompanying Return. A gratifying feature manifested itself in this immigration, in the general state of health in which they arrived, there being fewer cases of sickness or casualties amongst them than I ever witnessed in proportion to numbers, the details of which were duly transmitted in the prescribed returns. Many proceeded immediately into the interior to join their friends, with a view of permanently settling there. Encl. 1. in No. 2.

Since the Report which I had the honour of submitting to the Lieutenant-governor on the 10th July last, nothing has yet occured in the general affairs of the country to induce more flattering propects of demand (for a time at least) for immigrant labourers. When, however, the reaction in business at home shall have realized steps of permanent improvement (now so auspiciously begun), then, and not till then, will its beneficial effects be sensibly felt amongst all industrial classes here; for we cannot conceal from ourselves that such has been the extent of exhaustion in the monetary and other resources of the many, that it must be a work of some time to redeem their condition. In the present state of depression and distress here, the debt of thankfulness of immigration and humanity is due to his Excellency Sir William Colebrooke, for it is to his timeous intervention with the Right honourable the Colonial Secretary of State, that an accumulating torrent of emigration was stayed at home. Had they reached this province, it could only have been to augment the body of misfortune now heavily pressing on the community. These expressions are, you will perceive, Sir, inapplicable to another class of immigrants whom it is most desirable to have in the country; I mean a rural population composed of solvent yeomanry and small farmers with sufficient means to make permanent settlements.

The rates of wages and prices of provisions for the past quarter, are indicated in the quarterly abstract for the provincial secretary's office. It is a source of deep regret that there is no Board of Works to employ immigrants.

I have, &c.
(signed) A. WEDDERBURN, G. E. A.

Alfred Reade, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

No. 2.

Sir W. M. G. Colebrooke to Lord Stanley, 30th Jan. 1843.

Encl. 1. in No. 2.

ABSTRACT RETURN of IMMIGRATION to the Province of NEW BRUNSWICK, between 1st January and 31st December 1842.

Where Arrived.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Remarks.
St. John	3,277	2,794	1,494	7,565	Comparatively few cases of sickness or casualties; deaths, 9; 5 drowned.
Miramichi	151	94	87	332	
St. Andrew's	195	129	99	423	
Bay Verte	—	—	—	—	None direct from the United Kingdom. Emigrants join their friends *vid* St. John. Several families arrived from Prince Edward Island. Desultory immigration arises chiefly from casualties to shipping from the United Kingdom; but the migration from the United States to this Province is spontaneous.
Richibucto	—	—	—	—	
Bathurst	—	—	—	—	
Dalhousie	—	—	—	—	
Shediac	—	—	—	—	
	3,623	3,017	1,680	8,320	

Emigrant Office, St. John, New Brunswick, 2d January 1843.

(signed) A. WEDDERBURN, G. E. A.

Enclosure 2. in No. 2.

Government Emigrant Office, St. John, New Brunswick, January 1843.

Sir,

Encl. 2. in No. 2.

IN obedience to the commands formerly received, I transmitted to the provincial secretary's office the abstract account of immigration here for 1842, for the information of the Right honourable the Colonial Secretary of State; and I have now the further honour to submit to his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor a communication recently made to the Commissioners for Colonial Land and Emigration, being extended but collateral observations to the remarks in the forwarded printed official category. A gratifying feature in the immigration of last year was the comparatively healthy state in proportion to numbers in which the parties arrived here, which is in a great degree attributable to the salutary measures of the colonial and emigration departments. The intervention of Sir William Colebrooke with Lord Stanley, to check the fall emigration, was most timeous and beneficial; had they arrived in the bodies apprehended here, they could only have formed accumulations of misfortune, now lying so heavily on this community.

Total arrivals, 8,320 souls.

Divisory Scale:

Adults:

Males	3,623
Females	3,017
Minors	1,680
Total	8,320

State of the country at present affecting immigrant labour.

Since the report which I had the honour to submit on the 16th July last, nothing has occurred in the general aspect of affairs in the province to warrant me in holding out any more flattering prospects (for a time at least) of demand for immigrant labour. Whenever the reaction in business shall have attained such valid advances in improvement as will indicate stability, then, and not till then, can the beneficial effects be felt among the immigrants and others here; for it cannot be concealed from ourselves, and the fact ought not to be withheld from the knowledge of those interested abroad, that such has been the extent of exhaustion in the monetary and other resources of the many here, that it must be a work of time to establish anything like a permanent redemption in their condition and circumstances, or to enable their industry and enterprise to benefit from the abundant natural capabilities of the province, or the advantages it affords.

Public works, and emigrant employments.

Much solicitude as his Excellency has evinced to meliorate the condition of immigrants, it is deeply to be regretted that the necessary and effectual sinew, a solvent exchequer, is wanting to enable the executive to initiate and extend works of public utility, wherein a systematic course of employment for emigrants might be established. Although rates of wages are inserted in the abstract, I regret to say that they in most cases must be considered but nominal, and only a very small number of mechanics, artizans, or labourers can be employed, and that, too, intermittently.

The prices of provisions have, however, been also very low, owing alike to the abundant harvest, clemency of fall weather, and scarcity of money. Those low prices tended essentially to alleviate the distresses of the immigrants here.

Highland Society.

Agricultural Society.

I look forward with no small degree of confidence to receiving in future beneficial action and co-operation on behalf of immigrants from our recently established Highland Society; and I am enabled to acquaint the Lieutenant-governor that the best feeling manifests itself amongst the members of the Agricultural Society here towards the humble settlers, and that on the limited funds admitting, it is intended to reward the deserving and industrious by donations of suitable seeds, to enable them to prosecute their labours with advantage.

Associate system.

The associate system of settlement organized by Sir William Colebrooke must eventually prove

prove of much advantage to immigrant settlers in the country. The original avocations of the parties constituting the associations, and their practical experience and knowledge of the work in the woods, guided by their general intelligence, render them good examples and able schoolmasters in the bush to subsequent settlements in the neighbourhood.

I have, &c.

Alfred Reade, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

(signed) Alexander Wedderburn, G. E. A.

Enclosure 3. in No. 2.

To his Excellency Sir William M'Bean George Colebrooke, K. H., Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

In making a report for the past year, as emigrant agent at Fredericton, I beg leave to call your Excellency's attention to the provincial statute, page 587—8, under which the funds that may be obtained from emigrants arriving in the province are directed to be applied, and under which I am satisfied a sum is collected sufficient, if properly expended, to meet its object, which is the relieving destitute and diseased passengers and emigrants, and in assisting them to reach their places of destination within the province.

But, unfortunately, the Act further provides that sums so received shall be applied from time to time by grants of the legislature; and as that body does not meet till the season has passed away when passenger-ships arrive, and as the Lieutenant-governor for the time being has no authority to apportion any part of the sums so obtained to assist emigrants in distress, or aid them on their arrival in this country, the result is they are thrown upon the community as paupers, to be provided for by the commissioners of the poor, who subsequently apply to the legislature for remuneration, where their claims are frequently reduced. Hence a stigma is attached to persons thus unfortunately situated, which attaches to them and their families in after life.

I know an instance myself where the descendants of a person who came to Halifax, Nova Scotia, several years since, in a very humble situation in life, have by their prudence and integrity raised themselves to seats in the Council of that and another colony; and yet under the system pursued in this province, had he obtained some trifling assistance, which probably he would afterwards have repaid, it must have been doled out to him by the commissioners of the poor, and would not have been forgotten by those malignant persons with whom every community abounds.

There is also some little allowance to be made for the feelings and habits of those poor people who leave the country of their nativity to seek in a strange land another home. For instance, the Irish, and I believe the remark applies to the Scotch and English emigrants, never having been accustomed to eating Indian meal, they dislike it; in fact in some instances they cannot eat it, although it is a wholesome and excellent description of food, without experiencing ill effects. But oatmeal they will gladly take. Yet in every instance that has come under my observation, the commissioners of the poor give Indian meal; and those who endeavour to obtain oatmeal are considered as improperly fastidious.

To remedy the difficulty that arises from the interference of the commissioners, and to relieve them from a disagreeable duty, as also to secure an economical and proper expenditure of the Emigrant Fund, I would suggest that it should be placed at the disposal of the Lieutenant-governor to be applied for the relief and assistance of emigrants, under his Excellency's immediate directions, by persons who act as emigrant agents, or others who may perform that duty where numbers of emigrants annually arrive; a detailed account to be rendered to the legislature at the close of each year.

There is another proceeding attending the passage of emigrants that materially affects their comfort during such passage, and their circumstances on their subsequent arrival in the colony, to which I beg leave to call your Excellency's attention, for the purpose of bringing it under the notice of Her Majesty's Government.

The emigrants on leaving Great Britain generally provide for themselves and families as they conceive, a sufficient supply of food to last during the entire passage; but owing to the prevalence of adverse winds, and I fear, in some instances, the cupidity of the masters of the vessels, the passages are protracted to an unusual length; and the poor people having consumed their provisions, are at the mercy of these men, who sell supplies to them, as I have understood repeatedly from emigrants who have come to my office in a destitute condition, at an exorbitant rate, so that when the voyage is ended, individuals with families, who when they embarked had funds that would have materially assisted them, on their arrival in the province are reduced to abject poverty, and have been compelled to dispose of their clothing to support nature on their being landed after the termination of their voyage.

This would be obviated if the masters of vessels taking passengers were compelled to have at least two months' supply of provisions for both passengers and crew, and that a fixed

NEW BRUNSWICK.

No. 2.

Sir W.M.G.Colebrooke to Lord Stanley, 30th Jan. 1843.

Encl. 3. in No. 2.

price should be prescribed for adults and children, and the articles constituting a ration, and their quality and quantity, also defined by some competent authority at the place of departure.

This may seem at first sight to inflict a hardship upon the owners and masters of vessels; but the price of a ration might so be fixed as to repay them for their outlay; and when it is recollected that the conveyance of passengers is a mere business transaction, and that credulous and ignorant people are continually imposed upon by the cupidity of persons in command of emigrant ships, it will be found to be a course consistent with justice as well as humanity.

With reference to the description of emigrants that should resort to this province, I would beg leave to remark that in the absence of any great public undertaking, a sufficient influx of the labouring class will find their way hither, through the representations of interested persons, or owing to the recommendations of their friends and acquaintances, and as many as can well become annually merged in the population of the province.

There is, however, a class of settlers wanting in this province, and to whom it offers probably as great inducements as can be found elsewhere; and that is persons of limited means, say possessing from 300*l.* to 500*l.* Owing to the great loss that attends lumbering pursuits, there are numbers of farms throughout the province which have become mortgaged to the merchants, who have advanced supplies and money to pay for their licences, and which would be disposed of at a cheap rate if purchasers with means could be found; and there are large quantities of cleared land throughout the province which are entirely neglected, that might at a comparatively trifling expense become cultivated and fertile tracts of country.

Were persons so situated, therefore, to emigrate to this province in bodies, including among their number a due proportion of artizans, such as smiths, carpenters, shoemakers, tailors, masons, &c., with a schoolmaster, and perhaps a clergyman, not only would their condition be permanently improved, but the country would be better settled by a description of persons being infused among the population who would possess superior information and attainments, and they would form for themselves very happy communities.

The settlement of the boundary question will open up a fine country for the reception of emigrants; and I look upon it as an object of importance, that an English or Scotch population should inhabit the upper part of the county of Carleton, between the River St. John and the Grand Falls, as they would be diverted from those animosities and prejudices which might have a tendency to disturb that tranquillity which is so desirable should be established and cultivated between the people of these provinces and the neighbouring state of Maine.

There are considerable quantities of cleared land between Woodstock and the Arestook, particularly within the first 15 or 20 miles above the former place, that are only partially cultivated, where settlements could be made; and there are also large tracts of wilderness lands beyond that owned by absentees, and belonging to the Crown, which should no longer be locked up. These are at present held by absentees or other persons, to whom grants have been made between the Medurmkek, which empties into the St. John's at Woodstock; and the Grand Falls, 23,000 acres, and the vacant or ungranted land in that quarter, comprises about 25,000 acres more. The soil, as far as I am acquainted with it, and from the best information I can obtain, is of a superior quality, and the climate is remarkably fine.

There is also abundance of good land in the vicinity of the projected road to the bend of Petticodiac, between North River and New Canaan, amounting to 10,000 acres, including the Albert settlement, which has been surveyed, where new settlements could be advantageously formed. But whether sitting down in villages, or dispersed in separate farms, where the country has been partially cleared, or penetrating into the wilderness of the province, it is essential that parties arriving here depend mainly on the labour of their own hands, and understand something of agriculture. When such is the case, after having procured land or purchased farms, paid for their stock, and each head of a family having retained, say from 100*l.* to 150*l.*, they would have sufficient to support themselves and families till the crops of the first and second years would meet their requirements; and if the subsequent life of each individual should be marked by industry and prudence, it would be one of constantly increasing comfort and independence.

There is a fine tract of land commencing about 10 miles from Fredericton, called the Rusagonis settlement, which, owing to the lumbering pursuits of the inhabitants of that part of the province, has been much neglected; it extends from the Maryland settlement towards the Oromucto River. The land, generally speaking, is good, and the situation is delightful; I should say that 40 or 50 families might sit down in that direction in great comfort, and at a moderate distance from the seat of government.

On the south west Miramichi River there is abundance of fine land, and I believe a number of farms that might be bought at a very cheap rate, owing to the losses sustained by lumbering. The distance from Fredericton to where the road strikes the Miramichi River at Boiestown, is between 30 and 40 miles.

With reference to the immigrants who came to Fredericton from St. John and other parts of the province, in considerable numbers, during the early part of the summer, they were chiefly of the labouring class, many with helpless families, most of whom had parted with what trifling means they possessed before leaving the vessels in which they came passengers, or

or by the sale of articles of clothing in St. John's, and were consequently in destitute circumstances. I gave these people such advice as my knowledge of the country enabled me to afford, and passed them on to different parts of the province.

In some few instances, when nothing else could be done, I sent them back to St. John's in the steamers, incurring thereby an expense of some 3*l.* or 4*l.*, which I hope will meet with your Excellency's approbation. Those of them who are apt, and calculated to make themselves useful, however, have, with few exceptions, succeeded in obtaining employment.

With a slight exception (there being probably ten or a dozen English people, among whom were two shipwrights, whom I forwarded up the river in December), the emigrants who came to me were all Irish; and there is this difficulty about this description of persons, that they will often apply for and receive aid when they are in possession of sufficient funds of their own; and it is almost impossible to determine between cases of real poverty and affected want. The Scotch seldom or never beg; and I do not recollect an instance of a person of that nation applying for charitable relief under ordinary circumstances. On their arrival they generally penetrate into the country, and procure employment; but the Irish will hang about towns while a farthing remains in their pockets, and then, when necessity compels them to resort to the country, will demand wages far beyond what they can earn, or farmers can afford to give. I feel much gratified, however, in stating that the Irish immigrants who have arrived out during the last two years in particular, were remarkable for sobriety; and I never saw an instance of inebriety, either among those who applied at my office or in the street.

Whatever may be the determination of Her Majesty's Government with reference to emigration, I cannot conclude this report without remarking, that this province seems hitherto to have been singularly unfortunate in this particular. Possessing abundance of land of the finest quality, intersected by numerous rivers of considerable extent, many of which abound with salmon and other fish, with a salubrious climate, at no great distance from the mother country, which may be reached in a fortnight, it offers every inducement to a person desirous of emigrating and possessing property, who, with moderate means, can live here in independence. Those who can command funds to support them during the first year of their residence are sure to succeed; and there are numerous instances where persons, without any means whatever beyond their own labour and industry, have cleared away the wilderness around their dwellings, and have converted it into profitable and fertile farms, who are now living in the enjoyment of every comfort which the bulk of a community can anywhere obtain.

I have, &c.

(signed) Edmond Ward,

Assistant Emigrant Agent.

Fredericton, 24th January 1843.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 3.

No. 95.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GIPPS to Lord STANLEY.

No. 3. Sir George Gipps to Lord Stanley, 23d May 1842.

My Lord, Government House, Sydney, 23d May 1842.

I HAVE the honour herewith to enclose three copies of a Report recently made to me by the immigration agent of this colony, which, though nominally only for the year 1841, contains a general notice of the progress of immigration up to the arrival of the last of the emigrants who left England previous to the 1st November 1841.

On comparing this Report with my own despatch, No. 88., of the 14th May 1842, and the memorandum which accompanied it, your Lordship will perceive that but little difference of opinion exists between myself and the immigration agent—the principal, perhaps, being, that whilst I have recommended that in any future emigration the selection of the emigrants should be left to the agents of the parties contracting to bring them to this country, Mr. Merewether recommends that they should be selected by the agents of government.

Your Lordship will perceive that Mr. Merewether has given all the information in his power respecting the way in which the immigrants, during the last 18 months, have been distributed in the colony; and I desire particularly to request attention to those paragraphs in page 39 of his Report, which relate to this matter, as in your Lordship's despatch, No. 16., of the 14th October 1841, I was desired to afford information on this subject.

For Lord Stanley's Despatch, 14th Oct. No. 16, *vide* Correspondence respecting Emigration, ordered by The House of Commons to be printed, 7th June 1842, No. 301, p. 1.

Of the large encampment of emigrants which was to be seen in Sydney a few weeks ago, all the tents, with the exception of five, have now, I am happy to say, disappeared.

At Port Phillip the number of unemployed immigrants is still considerable; but this is in great part to be accounted for by the long detention in quarantine of the ship Manlius.

Male immigrants at Melbourne, not able to make better engagements, are still employed by government, though their wages have been reduced from 20*s*. to 18*s*. per week. There were 362 men so employed on the 1st of the present month; and about 250 women and children were at that time still receiving assistance from the government.

I have, &c.
(signed) GEO. GIPPS.

Enclosure in No. 3.

REPORT on IMMIGRATION for the Year 1841, by FRANCIS L. S. MEREWETHER, Esq., Agent for Emigration; with an Appendix.

Encl. in No. 3.

Sir, Government Immigration Office, Sydney, 14th May 1842.

I DO myself the honour to transmit to your Excellency my Report on Immigration to this colony for the year 1841, together with a series of returns illustrative of the subject. In these documents I have endeavoured, in accordance with the instructions under which this Report is made, to embody all such statistical information as the records of my office enable me to furnish, of a nature likely to be "either useful or interesting to Her Majesty's Government or to the colonial or British public."

Appendix (A.)

The Return marked (A.) presents a detailed account of the bounty immigration of the year, showing the number of ships in which bounty immigrants arrived, the number of bounty immigrants landed from each ship, the place where they were landed, and the cost of their introduction.

From

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 3.

Sir George Gipps to Lord Stanley, 23d May 1842.

Encl. in No. 3.

From this document it will be seen, that during that single year, 99* ships, whose aggregate measurement amounted to about 35,000* tons, were engaged in the conveyance of bounty immigrants to this colony, and that of this number, no less than 89 were specially fitted out for the purpose.

It will also be seen that from these ships were landed, at Sydney 11,757, and at Port Phillip 7,766 bounty immigrants, making a total of 19,523 souls added to the working classes of the population, at a cost to the colony of 327,106*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.*

The Return marked (B.) shows the proportion in which the several counties, and principal subdivisions of the United Kingdom, have contributed to the amount of labour imported during the year 1841.

Appendix (B.)

Having heard complaints that many immigrants, hired as farm labourers, have proved utterly ignorant of almost every branch of their business, as well as slovenly in their mode of doing the work set before them, I cannot pass on from my notice of this document without an expression of regret, that of the very large number who have obtained free passages under the description of "Agricultural labourers," so very few should have been selected from those districts where agriculture is most generally and most successfully pursued, and where, consequently, the best husbandmen are to be found.

From Return (C.) it will be seen,—

Appendix (C.)

1st. That of the number of persons who arrived on bounty, including children, 9,750 were males, and 9,773 were females; and that of the males 7,335, and of the females 7,599, were above the age of 15 years, and immediately available therefore for work.

2dly. That of the total number of bounty immigrants, including children, 4,563 were natives of England; 1,616 were natives of Scotland; and 13,344 were natives of Ireland.

3dly. That of the total number of bounty immigrants, including children, 10,009 were Protestants; 9,476 were Roman Catholics; 37 were Jews; and one (happily a solitary case) was a member of no religious communion.

4thly. That of the total number of adults imported on bounty, 8,643 could read and write; 2,961 could read only; and 3,178 could neither read nor write.

5thly. That of the adults, 3,425 males, and 3,396 females were married; and 3,758 males, and 4,203 females, were unmarried.

Appendix (D.)

Return (D.) shows the number of deaths and births which occurred, either on the voyage or in quarantine, amongst the passengers of all classes who arrived in ships conveying bounty immigrants, and is, perhaps, the most gratifying of all the documents appended to my Report.

From this return it appears, that out of 22,335 souls (including children, amongst whom the greater number of deaths occurred), who embarked in ships which arrived in the colony with bounty immigrants during the year 1841, 21,705 were landed in safety, the diminution by death of the number which left Great Britain having amounted only to 630, being in the proportion of rather less than three in each hundred persons.

Appendix (E.)

Return (E.) shows the trades or callings of the bounty immigrants who arrived during the year 1841, according to their own statements when examined before the Board; and also the average wages given to persons of those callings at the close of that year.

This return is the only one of those forming the Appendix to my Report which I cannot submit as an accurate statistical document. The immigrants having been rapidly hired on board the vessels in which they arrived, I have been unable to obtain any satisfactory record of their engagements, by means of which to classify them, according to their actual employment in the colony, instead of according to their own representations of themselves. This return will, therefore, be found to give a very imperfect account of the distribution of the labour which arrived. For example, the number of agricultural labourers appearing in the Table being 5,149, and the number of shepherds being only 331, it is obvious that many of those who professed the former occupation must be actually employed in the latter; and that, in this instance at least, therefore, the return is defective, as it does not afford a correct view of the proportion in which the demand for these two descriptions of labour existed and was supplied. It is, however, in the number of these two classes only that inaccuracy exists to any considerable extent. The numbers assigned to the other callings may be considered as very nearly correct.

Though I have not been able to show with such accuracy as I could wish the manner in which the labour imported during the year 1841 has been distributed, yet that it has been distributed with a rapidity which might have been deemed almost impossible, considering the difficulty of communication with the interior, I have the means of affording most satisfactory proof. At the close of the third quarter of the year, the immense number of immigrants who were arriving at Sydney in continuous succession rendered it impossible that those of a less eligible description should find employment within the 10 days during which a maintenance was provided for them on board ship; the admission into the immigrant barracks, and the temporary maintenance there of such labourers with families, and such single women as, through no fault of their own, were discharged from their respective ships, without engagements, was in consequence sanctioned by your Excellency. The total number

* Not including the "William Money" and the "Perfect." *See* Remarks in Return (A.)

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of persons from time to time received into the barracks, under the above circumstances, up to the end of the year 1841, was,

Married men with families - - - - - -	200
Single females - - - - - - - -	172

The number lodged in the barracks on the 1st of January 1842 was,

Married men with families - - - - - -	81
Single females - - - - - - - -	15

So that out of 2,997 adult men, and 1,700 adult single women, or 4,697 working hands, who arrived at Sydney during the last half of the year, 1841, 372 only failed to obtain employment within 10 days after their arrival in Sydney, and 46 only remained without employment on the first day of the present year.

At Port Philip it was found necessary to make similar provision for the immigrants who did not find immediate employment; and from returns furnished by his Honor the superintendent of that district, it appears that out of 2,115 adult males, and 1,299 adult single females, or 3,414 working hands, landed in the district on bounty during the last half of the year 1841, 42 men with families, and 65 single women, or 107 working hands, only were without employment on the 1st day of January 1842. These statements render unnecessary any comment on the great demand for labour which must have existed in the colony, and the almost overwhelming distress which, but for its arrival, would have been experienced.

The rates of wages inserted in this Return (E.) are principally taken from averages struck on the wages given in 10 different districts of the interior, according to returns furnished to the principal superintendent of police, by the police magistrates of those districts. The present rates of wages are somewhat lower than those given in this Table, but the reduction is so inconsiderable as to afford in itself a satisfactory proof that the labour market is still much understocked.

Appendix (F.) Return (F.) shows that the total immigration to the colony during the year 1841, including persons who arrived without any assistance from the Government, amounted to 23,200 souls; of whom 14,652 were landed at Sydney, and 8,548 at Melbourne.

By a remark annexed to this return, it will be seen, that in the number of immigrants represented as having arrived without cost to the Government, are included 127 adult males, 381 adult females, and 72 children, who embarked as bounty immigrants, but were not paid for by the Government in consequence of their ineligibility under the colonial regulations.

The male portion of these rejected immigrants contains some few above the prescribed age, and some single men in excess of the number of single women, and on that account ineligible; but it is principally composed of persons represented to be agricultural labourers, but proving to be of other callings, such as tutors, clerks, overseers, butlers, valets, auctioneers, tradesmen, and others not coming within the description given in the bounty regulations.

The females who were rejected on their own account, and not on account of the ineligibility of their husbands, consisted of some few young women of a superior class to that of domestic and farm servants (which is now the only class admissible on bounty), or of an age above that prescribed by the regulations, or of notoriously bad characters, but principally of young females, not under the protection of married couples, in the manner contemplated by the regulations. The disallowance of bounties, made on this ground, has been large, and in some instances, perhaps, the rigid adherence to the principle of the regulations, which has been found necessary, has involved the rejection of women of an unexceptionable description in other respects. It is, however, satisfactory to myself, and to the other members of the Board, in looking back upon their discharge of a painful duty, to know, that whenever, subsequently to the report of the Board, and the payment of the bounties on immigrants by any ship, facts have come within my knowledge of a nature prejudicial to the character of any single females, these females have almost invariably been found amongst the number of those on whose account no payment was made, in consequence of their not having been under proper protection.

Appendix (G.) Return (G.) is a comparative statement of the annual amount of immigration during the past four years, from which it will be seen that the number of bounty immigrants who arrived during the year 1841 was less than the aggregate number which arrived during the entire period of the three preceding years by 691 souls only.

The number of immigrants who arrived without cost to the colony during the year 1841, was 3,677, which is less than the aggregate number of the three preceding years by 2,593.

That unassisted immigration has not progressed in the same ratio with assisted immigration may be in some degree attributed to the discouraging accounts which have reached England of the state of the colony, and which must have had the effect of preventing both large and small capitalists from embarking their fortunes in this country, during the continuance of its commercial distress. As this distress is now fast passing away, it is not an unreasonable hope that our next supply of labour will be accompanied by an influx of capital seeking investment in the surplus produce and stock of the colonists, which is now waiting for a market, and thus giving renewed impetus to the further development of the resources of the country, and opening an unbounded field for the employment of the productive classes.

The very small number of capitalists who arrived in the colony, or who have entered into agricultural or pastoral speculations, affords further proof of the great demand for labour which

which existed during the year 1841 amongst the old colonists, by whom that which arrived has been almost entirely employed.

From the same Return (G.) it will be seen that the immigration of the four years ended 31st December last, has amounted to 49,684 souls, of whom 39,737 have been introduced at the public expense.

Though it is gratifying to be able to state, that the "want of every description of labour," of which my predecessor, with so great cause, complained in his Report on Immigration for the year 1840, has been, in a very great measure, removed, yet I am far from thinking that the want has as yet been nearly met.

The temporary cessation of immigration will operate very advantageously, as it will afford time and opportunity for the recently arrived labour to settle itself throughout the colony.

On the re-commencement of immigration, the higher rates of wages before the immigrants, as they recede from their place of disembarkation*, will have had the effect probably of withdrawing all but what may be called the perennial labour, or the labour required all the year round from the agricultural districts in the neighbourhood of the capital. In those districts I am of opinion that the next harvest season will bring back a very large demand for additional hands. Under the circumstances of this colony it will not be possible at any time to form any thing like a correct estimate of the labour likely to be required; but I feel persuaded that 2,000 males and 1,000 unencumbered females will not meet the demand which will exist during the last quarter of the present year.

The descriptions of productive labour which are now, or are likely to be, in such demand as to make a provision for their supply out of the public funds desirable, are those, and only those, which are enumerated in the Bounty Regulations of the 3d March 1840; viz. agricultural labourers, shepherds, carpenters, smiths, wheelwrights, bricklayers, masons, and female domestic and farm servants. Sawyers, uniformly paid for by the Government, and brick-makers, might perhaps be specially mentioned.

For males of a superior description, such as clerks and farm overseers, there is at present no demand; and such persons have latterly been subjected to great privations, as well as great disappointment, on their arrival.

For nursery governesses, ladies maids, and females of a similar description, there is also no demand; and the emigration of such persons (unless with friends to protect and provide for them until they can find employment) is but too frequently productive of misery to themselves and injury to the community.

The number of bounty immigrants who have already arrived in this colony since the commencement of the present year is as follows:

Sydney.		
Adults	3,156	
Children	1,159	
		4,315
Port Phillip.		
Adults	1,007	
Children	316	
		1,323
Total		5,638

In addition to the above, about 1,000 persons have arrived without cost to the colony, making the total number of all classes landed in New South Wales, between the 1st of January last and the present date, amount to about 6,565 souls.

Of the number of bounty immigrants landed at Sydney, the following only now remain in the barracks without employment:

Men with families	27
Widows with families	3

In the uncertainty which at present hangs over the conduct of immigration to this colony, I am without the means of forming any estimate of the numbers who may be expected to arrive during the remainder of the present year.

I am happy to be able to report to your Excellency, that so far as my experience reaches, the ships employed in the conveyance of immigrants, during the past and present year, have been almost uniformly of a class well adapted to the service.

I can also speak in terms of commendation of the manner in which the ships generally have been fitted out and provisioned.

On these heads it occurs to me only to remark, 1st, that it would be desirable, in future, that a description of food, more suited to their constitution than that issued to adults, and now to children also, should be provided for the latter; and 2dly, that of two modes in

* It will be borne in mind, that as the immigrants recede further from the capital, whence all supplies are transmitted at a heavy cost of conveyance, the price of clothing will increase as well as the rates of wages, though probably not nearly in the same ratio. *See* Return (E.)

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which ships have been fitted up, under the sanction of the authorities at home, recent experience has, I think, shown that to be the better in which the three compartments of the passengers deck, allotted respectively to the single males, the families, and the single females, are divided from each other by wooden partitions. These partitions, when formed entirely of bars or grating, cannot offer much obstruction to the current of air, and contribute essentially to the preservation of order and morality.

Having bestowed commendation so far, as by abler judges than myself commendation has been allowed to be due, I must respectfully beg to be permitted to stay my remarks at this point, beyond which general praise cannot go. Short as has been my experience in the Immigration Department, I shrink from using individually the strong terms in which the Immigration Board have censured the numerous abuses latterly brought under their notice, and to use weaker terms would be an injustice to their feelings as well as my own. I beg, therefore, simply to recal your Excellency's attention to the several special reports made by the Board during the past nine months, if, indeed, the facts brought within your knowledge, by the evidence appended to those reports, are not so deeply impressed upon your memory as to need no revival from without.

As regards the conduct of immigration for the future, I must beg, with submission, to express my doubt, whether the selection of the immigrants can wisely be intrusted to mercantile speculation.

The merchant has been truly and justly designated "the friend of mankind;" but in all dealings with him it must be borne in mind, that however beneficial to the public may be the effects of his enterprise, yet, that his occupation is not the exercise of philanthropy, but the pursuit of gain. And in sending out emigrants for the benefit of New South Wales, the question with the merchant will be, not how he can best promote the interest of the colony, but how he can perform his contract in the most profitable manner to himself. And if, as he sits in his counting-house in London, he finds that men from Shoreditch and Wapping will flock to him for passages to the colony, and that such men will come sufficiently within the description of persons mentioned in his contract to make his payment secure, he will assuredly not go to the trouble and expense of seeking a better description of labourers from the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. This conclusion, I think I may venture to say, can be shown by the experience of the past six months, to be fully as much supported by fact as it appears to me to be theoretically just.

Recent experience has also shown that an undue, and, as it has proved, a suicidal thirst for gain, on the part of many of the persons intrusted with the conduct of emigration hither, has operated as unfavourably in the selection of surgeons superintendent as in the selection of emigrants.

Several instances have been brought within my knowledge, and that of the members of the Immigration Board, in which surgeons have not only received no remuneration from the shippers of the immigrants, but have even been required to enter into an engagement to pay for their passages, out of the gratuities expected by them from the Colonial Government. The consequence has been, as might be expected, that in many instances, these cheap surgeons have proved utterly unqualified for their charge, and have brought discredit upon themselves, loss upon their employers, and worse consequences still upon those who were committed to their care. In order to obviate so grievous an evil in future, your Excellency will remember that the Immigration Board, in a late report, took occasion to suggest, that no surgeons should be allowed to proceed in charge of immigrant ships, until they had been approved by the medical officers attached to the Board of Admiralty, or by some other equally competent and disinterested examiners.

I trust that the adoption of some such course may be (if it has not already been) recommended by your Excellency.

Having been driven, by my recently gained experience, from the prepossession in favour of the bounty system, which, in common with most of my fellow colonists, I entertained when I was placed in charge of the Immigration Department, I have naturally been led to consider how the good which was in that system could be retained in any other system which might take its place. I will not venture to intrude the scheme of such a novice as myself into the pages of this already long Report, but I so far trespass upon your Excellency's indulgence as to annex the outline of a plan, which might, perhaps, be found to combine the advantages of the two systems of immigration, known as the Bounty and Government systems, which, unfortunately for the interests of the colony, have ceased to be in concurrent operation.

I cannot conclude this Report, without making known to your Excellency the grateful sense which I entertain, and which, I think, the public at large must entertain with me, of the disinterested exertions made by Mrs. Chisholm in favour of the unprotected and friendless females who have latterly been landed in such numbers upon our shores. When, in consequence of inattention to a most important regulation of the Government, requiring every single female claimant for bounty "to be under the protection of a married couple, as forming part of the family, and destined to remain with it until otherwise provided for," a number of young women were landed from every ship, without employment, and without friends to afford them shelter or protection, this lady generously came forward to rescue these poor creatures from ruin and misery, and has for the last seven months, single-handed, and at an entire sacrifice of time and comfort, been labouring to obtain suitable situations for any and all who made application to her. She has deserved my thanks in my official capacity, and I am anxious thus to record them.

I feel

I feel also under obligations to this lady for having roused the colonists to a sense of the advantage which they would derive from the establishment of depôts throughout the country for the reception of newly-arrived immigrants, and from associations to provide for the conveyance of large bodies into their respective districts, at their common cost. At her instance the foundations of several such institutions have been laid; and I have reason to hope, that on the renewal of immigration they will be general throughout the country.

Should emigration become, as there is now good ground for hoping that it will become, a great national measure for the relief of a distressed population at home, and for the establishment abroad of dependent "communities on every shore, whose aspect favours hope or bold adventure," I cannot but anticipate from such associations as those of which I am speaking the greatest possible advantage to this colony, as a recipient of the redundant labour of the mother country. Their existence being known in Great Britain will create a confidence amongst the rural population (naturally fearful of what may befal them in countries beyond the seas) that in New South Wales they will not be left destitute in the place where they may be landed, until the demand for their services reaches them there, but that they will at once be conveyed into those districts where employment is ready for them.

There are also other institutions, for which it will be the interest of the colonists, as they look not for labourers merely, but for virtuous and respectable labourers, to make large provision out of the wealth which each accession of labour creates amongst them; I mean institutions for the education of the young, and the religious instruction of all, who may be tempted to seek a home amongst them. The honest and respectable of the working classes of Great Britain who may be disposed to emigrate will be most generally directed in the choice of the land whither they should go by the advice of the parochial clergy; and that advice will assuredly point to those countries where, in co-existence with worldly advantages, the best provision is made for the education of their children and their own religious instruction.

That, as a field for emigration, New South Wales should hold out these advantages, I consider to be of the utmost importance to her interests.

Your Excellency, during whose administration of the Government nearly 60,000 souls have been transplanted hither, from a country where the ministrations of religion and the means of education are at every man's door, would doubtless press this subject on the attention of the colonists on higher grounds. It is my province here to urge it merely as a means of attracting a better class of immigrants to our shores.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS L. S. MEEKWETHER,
Agent for Immigration.

To his Excellency
Governor Sir George Gipps,
&c. &c. &c.

PROPOSAL FOR THE FUTURE CONDUCT OF IMMIGRATION.

1.—That ships shall be provided, fitted out, and victualled by contract. Charter and outfit of ships.

That one half of the contract money shall be advanced in England, leaving the other half to be paid in the colony, on the receipt, by the Government, of a favourable report from the surgeon superintendent as to the manner in which the contract has been performed.

That the contractors shall be required to lodge in the hands of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners such policies of insurance as will secure the Government against the loss of the moiety of the expenditure advanced in England.

2.—That the surgeon superintendent shall be nominated by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, who would doubtless require from their nominee satisfactory certificates, not merely that he is competent as a medical practitioner, but that he is a person possessing the still more requisite qualifications of humanity, decision, uprightness, and self-respect. That after nomination he shall be required to present himself before the medical officers attached to the Board of Admiralty, and that his appointment shall be dependent upon the report of those officers. Surgeons Superintendent.

That to the surgeon shall be committed the sole charge of the emigrants, and that the officers of the ship shall be subordinate to him, in all matters concerning the emigrants.

That it shall be the duty of the surgeon to make himself acquainted, as far as possible, with the previous history, character, and callings of the immigrants under his charge; and that he shall be required to present a complete list of them to the immigration agent, on his arrival, with a note attached to the name of each individual indicative of his eligibility, or otherwise, as an emigrant.

3.—That selecting officers shall be appointed in such districts of the United Kingdom as may be deemed expedient, and that they shall be under the general superintendence of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, but that their pay, or the greater part of it, shall be derived from the Colonial Government, by way of head-money on every immigrant who may be approved by the Immigration Board in the colony (deciding of course, as now, according to established rules), after personal inspection, and after consideration of the report given of him by the surgeon superintendent. Selection of emigrants.

(A.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

A Return of the Number of Bounty Immigrants, who arrived in

No.	NAMES OF SHIPS.	Date of Arrival.	SYDNEY.					PORT PHILLIP.				
			Adults.		Children.		Total.	Adults.		Children.		Total.
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1	William Money		3	3	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–
2	Ganges		3	2	–	2	7	–	–	–	–	–
3	Perfect		–	–	–	–	–	3	3	1	2	9
4	Salsette	Jan. 2	–	–	–	–	–	52	60	46	30	188
5	Ariadne	Jan. 8	–	–	–	–	–	11	11	3	3	28
6	Ferguson	Jan. 15	–	–	–	–	–	94	103	15	18	230
7	Alfred	Jan. 19	91	105	22	17	235	–	–	–	–	–
8	Sir Charles Forbes	Jan. 21	–	–	–	–	–	68	81	15	16	180
9	Conrad	Jan. 31	18	25	9	11	63	–	–	–	–	–
10	Marquis of Hastings	Feb. 4	86	78	19	17	200	–	–	–	–	–
11	York	Feb. 6	–	–	–	–	–	2	2	–	1	5
12	Jane Gifford	Feb. 13	81	133	16	14	246	–	–	–	–	–
13	Posthumous	Feb. 13	1	1	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–
14	Georgiana	Feb. 25	–	–	–	–	–	37	65	38	24	164
15	Argyle, London	March 1	–	–	–	–	–	87	88	20	9	204
16	Brothers	March 11	88	86	50	36	260	–	–	–	–	–
17	Portland	March 11	75	64	39	36	214	–	–	–	–	–
18	Glenswilly	March 11	108	147	22	24	301	–	–	–	–	–
19	Berkshire	March 13	92	84	30	20	226	–	–	–	–	–
20	Susan	March 25	100	88	19	14	221	–	–	–	–	–
21	Margaret	March 28	84	82	39	40	245	–	–	–	–	–
22	Neptune	March 29	–	–	–	–	–	113	110	15	15	253
23	John Cooper	April 4	–	–	–	–	–	8	8	4	4	24
24	Bussorah Merchant	April 6	40	39	38	37	154	–	–	–	–	–
25	Argyle, Liverpool	April 13	–	–	–	–	–	39	80	45	34	227
26	Sir John Falstaff	April 14	32	48	25	33	138	–	–	–	–	–
27	James Mathieson	April 14	65	70	27	29	191	–	–	–	–	–
28	Orestes	May 14	68	85	56	46	255	–	–	–	–	–
29	Moffatt	May 31	163	110	25	24	322	–	–	–	–	–
30	Duchess of Northumberland	June 3	–	–	–	–	–	114	85	22	18	239
31	Frankfield	June 7	–	–	–	–	–	100	93	55	51	301
32	Earl Grey	June 24	105	96	20	25	246	–	–	–	–	–
33	Achilles	July 12	18	2	–	–	20	–	–	–	–	–
34	Herald	July 15	104	130	68	60	362	–	–	–	–	–
35	Royal Saxon	July 17	–	–	–	–	–	99	104	14	6	223
36	England	July 17	–	–	–	–	–	133	114	53	41	341
37	Ellen	July 21	105	111	30	27	293	–	–	–	–	–
38	George Fyffe	July 23	–	–	–	–	–	86	96	15	16	213
39	Queen Victoria	July 26	77	71	38	25	211	–	–	–	–	–
40	Brilliant	July 26	–	–	–	–	–	5	12	–	–	17
41	William Abrams	July 26	–	–	–	–	–	61	62	23	24	170
42	Westminster	July 30	–	–	–	–	–	108	98	24	14	244
43	Burrampooter	Aug. 7	69	82	40	55	296	–	–	–	–	–
44	Cadet	Aug. 9	61	66	49	35	211	–	–	–	–	–
45	Pearl	Aug. 17	85	107	11	4	207	–	–	–	–	–
46	Eleanor	Aug. 22	92	79	14	24	209	–	–	–	–	–
47	Elizabeth	Aug. 23	130	111	60	43	344	–	–	–	–	–
48	William Metcalfe	Aug. 27	–	–	–	–	–	83	97	21	8	209
49	Forth	Aug. 28	91	99	23	21	234	–	–	–	–	–
50	Percy	Aug. 28	93	102	53	30	278	–	–	–	–	–
51	Globe	Aug. 28	5	5	–	6	17	–	–	–	–	–
52	Runnymede	Aug. 30	90	114	12	4	220	–	–	–	–	–
53	Adam Lodge	Aug. 30	87	92	39	33	251	–	–	–	–	–
54	Strathfieldsaye	Aug. 30	–	–	–	–	–	88	106	18	16	228
55	John Renwick	Sept. 1	86	105	14	8	211	–	–	–	–	–
56	Chirs	Sept. 7	100	76	26	24	226	–	–	–	–	–
57	United Kingdom	Sept. 7	164	144	76	63	447	–	–	–	–	–
58	Gilbert Henderson	Sept. 16	83	109	7	8	207	–	–	–	–	–
59	Forth	Sept. 18	–	–	–	–	–	82	104	19	16	221
60	Canton	Sept. 18	101	80	13	16	210	–	–	–	–	–
61	Middlesex	Sept. 30	–	–	–	–	–	90	99	19	11	219
62	Thomas Arbuthnot	Oct. 2	–	–	–	–	–	92	92	37	26	247
63	Agricola	Oct. 3	–	–	–	–	–	92	90	29	19	230
64	Enmore	Oct. 4	–	–	–	–	–	43	53	1	6	103
65	William Turner	Oct. 5	81	87	36	29	233	–	–	–	–	–
66	James Moran	Oct. 6	62	58	16	18	154	–	–	–	–	–
67	Intrinsic	Oct. 7	–	–	–	–	–	69	68	42	39	218
68	Lady Kennaway	Oct. 12	92	92	13	10	209	–	–	–	–	–
69	Livingstone	Oct. 21	67	79	48	33	227	–	–	–	–	–
70	Catherine Jamieson	Oct. 22	–	–	–	–	–	43	48	33	28	152
71	Lysander	Oct. 22	–	–	–	–	–	80	105	20	14	219
72	Grindley	Oct. 22	–	–	–	–	–	53	61	16	17	147
73	New York Packet	Oct. 25	71	72	63	38	244	–	–	–	–	–
74	Victoria	Oct. 24	13	17	5	10	45	–	–	–	–	–
75	Ayrshire	Oct. 25	94	94	50	66	304	–	–	–	–	–
76	Diamond	Nov. 4	–	–	–	–	–	96	107	27	23	253
77	Fairlie	Nov. 5	105	120	34	29	288	–	–	–	–	–
78	Larne	Nov. 6	85	88	35	36	252	–	–	–	–	–
79	Trinidad	Nov. 6	52	41	31	24	148	–	–	–	–	–
80	Lascar	Nov. 11	52	54	8	11	125	–	–	–	–	–
81	Wallace	Nov. 26	–	–	–	–	–	103	103	47	50	303

(A.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

Colony during the Year 1841, with TOTAL COST of their Introduction.

GRAND TOTAL. Adults. Males.	Adults. Females.	Children. Males.	Children. Females.	Number of Souls.	Amount paid, or still due, as Bounty. £ s. d.	Amount paid, or still due, as Gratuities to Surgeons, Officers, &c. £ s. d.	TOTAL COST to the COLONY. £ s. d.	REMARKS.
3	3	–	–	6	108 0 0	– – –	108 0 0	The "Perfect" arrived in 1840, but the small number of immigrants landed from her at Melbourne were not included in the Return for that year.
3	2	–	2	7	115 0 0	– – –	115 0 0	
8	3	1	2	9	134 0 0	– – –	134 0 0	
52	60	46	30	188	2,703 0 0	146 15 0	2,849 15 0	
11	11	3	3	28	448 0 0	32 16 0	480 16 0	
94	105	13	18	228	3,968 0 0	198 16 0	4,166 16 0	
91	105	22	17	235	3,921 0 0	207 15 0	4,128 15 0	
68	81	15	16	180	3,046 0 0	167 17 0	3,213 17 0	
18	25	9	11	63	912 0 0	57 11 0	969 11 0	
86	78	19	17	200	3,331 0 0	186 0 0	3,517 0 0	
2	2	2	1	7	106 0 0	– – –	106 0 0	
81	135	18	14	246	4,256 0 0	226 5 0	4,482 5 0	The amount attached to the "Grindley" immigrants is an estimate, the expense of their conveyance to Melbourne having been temporarily defrayed by the Home Government, and being unknown. The immigrants left Scotland in the "India," burnt at sea, were landed at Rio, and transmitted from thence under the direction of the Consul.
1	1	–	–	2	38 0 0	– – –	38 0 0	
57	65	38	24	184	2,798 0 0	167 9 4	2,965 9 4	
87	88	20	9	204	3,505 0 0	189 8 0	3,694 8 0	
88	86	50	36	260	3,836 0 0	238 3 0	4,074 3 0	
75	64	39	36	214	3,096 0 0	195 18 0	3,291 18 0	
108	147	22	24	301	5,105 0 0	234 0 0	5,339 0 0	
93	84	30	20	226	3,689 0 0	206 5 0	3,895 5 0	
100	88	19	14	221	3,822 0 0	202 17 0	4,024 17 0	
84	82	39	40	245	3,754 0 0	188 12 6	3,942 12 6	
113	110	15	15	253	4,427 0 0	227 1 0	4,654 1 0	Payment of the bounties on the immigrants per "Brilliant" has not yet been authorized.
8	8	4	4	24	354 0 0	20 8 0	374 8 0	
40	39	28	27	154	2,096 0 0	182 4 0	2,158 4 0	
59	89	45	34	227	3,492 0 0	208 19 0	3,700 19 0	
32	48	25	33	138	1,925 0 0	117 8 0	2,042 8 0	
65	70	27	29	191	2,945 0 0	176 7 0	3,121 7 0	
68	85	56	46	255	3,672 0 0	217 0 0	3,889 0 0	
163	110	25	24	322	5,482 0 0	293 14 0	5,775 14 0	
114	85	22	13	234	3,991 0 0	216 18 0	4,207 18 0	
100	95	53	51	301	4,450 0 0	274 14 0	4,724 14 0	
105	96	30	25	246	4,114 0 0	224 2 0	4,338 2 0	
18	2	–	–	20	380 0 0	– – –	380 0 0	
104	130	68	60	362	5,346 0 0	329 14 0	5,675 14 0	
99	104	14	6	223	3,962 0 0	214 11 0	4,166 11 0	
135	114	53	41	343	5,336 0 0	313 5 0	5,649 5 0	
105	111	50	27	293	4,629 0 0	266 15 0	4,895 15 0	
86	96	13	16	213	3,648 0 0	197 18 0	3,845 18 0	
77	71	38	25	211	3,212 0 0	13 0 0	3,225 0 0	
5	12	–	–	17	323 0 0	12 15 0	335 15 0	
61	62	25	24	170	2,617 0 0	160 10 0	2,777 10 0	
108	96	24	14	244	4,154 0 0	225 2 0	4,379 2 0	
69	82	40	35	226	3,374 0 0	206 2 0	3,580 2 0	
61	66	49	35	211	3,043 0 0	193 10 0	3,236 10 0	
85	107	11	4	207	3,723 0 0	187 19 0	3,910 19 0	
92	79	14	24	209	3,479 0 0	191 6 6	3,670 6 6	
130	111	60	43	344	5,194 0 0	311 11 0	5,505 11 0	
83	97	21	8	209	3,605 0 0	193 13 0	3,798 13 0	
91	99	23	21	234	3,890 0 0	214 18 0	4,104 18 0	
93	102	53	30	278	4,305 0 0	234 6 0	4,539 6 0	
5	5	1	6	17	225 0 0	– – –	225 0 0	
90	114	12	4	220	3,956 0 0	203 0 0	4,159 0 0	
87	92	59	33	251	3,871 0 0	229 7 0	4,100 7 0	
88	106	18	16	228	3,856 0 0	209 16 0	4,065 16 0	
86	108	14	3	211	3,721 0 0	134 19 3	3,855 19 3	
100	76	26	24	226	3,624 0 0	204 2 0	3,828 2 0	
164	144	76	63	447	6,857 0 0	405 19 0	7,242 19 0	
89	109	7	8	207	3,728 0 0	189 0 0	3,917 0 0	
82	104	19	16	221	3,759 0 0	203 0 0	3,962 0 0	
101	80	15	16	210	3,569 0 0	192 10 0	3,761 10 0	
90	99	19	11	219	3,762 0 0	198 3 0	3,960 3 0	
92	92	37	26	247	3,866 0 0	232 4 0	4,098 4 0	
92	90	29	19	230	3,773 0 0	211 10 0	3,984 10 0	
43	58	1	6	108	1,849 0 0	86 0 0	1,935 0 0	
81	87	36	29	233	3,542 0 0	214 1 0	3,756 1 0	
62	58	16	18	154	2,450 0 0	139 1 0	2,589 1 0	
69	68	42	39	238	3,393 0 0	280 4 0	3,553 4 0	
92	92	13	10	209	3,631 0 0	187 10 0	3,818 10 0	
67	79	48	33	227	3,304 0 0	202 19 6	3,506 19 6	
43	48	33	28	152	2,154 0 0	139 4 0	2,293 4 0	
80	105	20	14	219	3,675 0 0	201 0 0	3,876 0 0	
53	61	16	17	147	2,186 0 0	105 4 9	2,291 4 9	
71	72	63	38	244	3,452 0 0	64 14 0	3,516 14 0	
13	17	5	10	45	650 0 0	38 5 0	688 5 0	
94	94	30	66	304	4,407 0 0	272 0 0	4,679 0 0	
96	107	27	23	253	4,172 0 0	231 18 0	4,403 18 0	
105	120	34	29	288	4,680 0 0	263 16 0	4,943 16 0	
83	88	45	36	252	3,789 0 0	228 4 0	4,017 4 0	
52	41	31	24	148	2,137 0 0	138 16 0	2,275 16 0	
52	54	8	11	125	2,154 0 0	114 4 0	2,268 4 0	
109	105	47	50	308	4,604 0 0	290 6 0	4,894 6 0	Payment of the bounties on immigrants per "Wallace" has not been authorized.

(continued)

No.	NAMES OF SHIPS.	Date of Arrival.	SYDNEY.					PORT PHILLIP.				
			Adults.		Children.		Total.	Adults.		Children.		Total.
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
82	Frances	Nov. 28	–	–	–	–	–	29	31	18	14	92
83	Joseph Cunard	Nov. 28	109	101	54	36	294	–	–	–	–	–
84	Alan Ker	Nov. 30	–	–	–	–	–	71	69	44	35	219
85	Mary Nixon	Nov. 30	–	–	–	–	–	62	72	5	11	150
86	Albatross	Nov. 30	85	130	23	24	262	–	–	–	–	–
87	Marquis of Bute	Nov. 30	–	–	–	–	–	80	78	82	34	294
88	Brankenmoor	Dec. 3	–	–	–	–	–	56	67	12	17	152
89	Comet	Dec. 3	70	67	12	7	156	–	–	–	–	–
90	Columbine	Dec. 3	87	91	40	29	247	–	–	–	–	–
91	William Mitchell	Dec. 16	–	–	–	–	–	6	9	1	–	16
92	Ward Chapman	Dec. 16	–	–	–	–	–	86	86	71	63	306
93	Agostina	Dec. 17	–	–	–	–	–	42	50	7	4	103
94	Asia	Dec. 19	–	–	–	–	–	1	2	2	1	6
95	Tropic	Dec. 23	1	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
96	William Jardine	Dec. 23	78	86	16	17	197	–	–	–	–	–
97	Emerald Isle	Dec. 23	27	48	6	4	85	–	–	–	–	–
98	Gilmore	Dec. 24	–	–	–	–	–	92	99	21	9	221
99	Lalla Rookh	Dec. 26	58	58	20	19	155	–	–	–	–	–
100	Lady Clarke	Dec. 26	75	98	90	22	215	–	–	–	–	–
101	Alexander	Dec. 27	–	–	–	–	–	82	107	24	18	231
	TOTAL		4,300	4,510	1,594	1,333	11,757	2,883	3,089	974	820	7,766

N. B.—Of the above number of ships, 89 were specially fitted out for the conveyance of immigrants

(B.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURN of the Native Counties of the BOUNTY IMMIGRANTS, who arrived in the Colony during the Year 1841; ENGLAND, SCOTLAND,

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Northern Counties.		Southern Counties.		Midland Counties.		Eastern Counties.		WALES.	
Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.
Northumberland	42	Kent	300	Cheshire	86	Lincoln	48	Caernarvonshire	4
Cumberland	67	Sussex	349	Derbyshire	32	Norfolk	48	Denbighshire	10
Westmoreland	24	Surrey	108	Nottinghamshire	80	Huntingdon	10	Flintshire	1
Durham	17	Hampshire	89	Staffordshire	53	Cambridge	25	Merionethshire	3
Yorkshire	371	Berkshire	20	Warwickshire	60	Suffolk	12	Montgomeryshire	1
Lancashire	602	Dorsetshire	42	Worcestershire	40	Bedford	5	Cardiganshire	–
Isle of Man	22	Wiltshire	63	Leicestershire	26	Hertford	94	Radnorshire	–
		Somersetshire	201	Rutlandshire	4	Essex	65	Pembrokeshire	29
		Devonshire	388	Northampton	23	Middlesex	413	Caermarthenshire	3
		Cornwall	190	Buckingham	98			Brecknockshire	1
		Guernsey I.	16	Oxfordshire	22			Glamorganshire	28
				Gloucestershire	219			Anglesea	8
				Monmouthshire	24				
				Herefordshire	57				
				Shropshire	25				
	1,345		1,723		759		648		86

N. B.—The Total number fr m England, Scotland,

(C.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURN of the Ages, Native Countries, Religion, Education, &c. of the

AGE AND SEX.								TOTAL.	NATIVE COUNTRY.		
ADULTS.		CHILDREN.									
Males above 18.	Females above 15.	Males from 15 to 18.	From 7 to 15.		From 1 to 7.		Under 1 Year.		England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.			
7,185	7,599	159	999	816	1,187	1,065	290	223	19,523	4,563	1,616	13,344

GRAND TOTAL.					Amount paid, or still due, as Bounty.	Amount paid, or still due, as Gratuities to Surgeons, Officers, &c.	TOTAL COST to the COLONY.	REMARKS.
Adults.		Children.		Number of Souls.				
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
29	31	18	14	92	1,345 0 0	83 12 0	1,428 12 0	
103	101	54	36	294	4,476 0 0	275 4 0	4,751 4 0	
71	69	44	35	219	3,120 0 0	220 0 0	3,340 0 0	
62	72	5	11	150	2,622 0 0	119 6 0	2,741 6 0	
85	130	23	24	262	4,350 0 0	201 12 0	4,551 12 0	
80	78	32	34	224	3,377 0 0	209 16 0	3,586 16 0	
56	67	12	17	152	2,532 0 0	144 18 0	2,676 18 0	
70	67	12	7	156	2,801 0 0	149 11 0	2,950 11 0	
87	91	40	29	247	3,844 0 0	226 13 0	4,070 13 0	
6	9	1	–	16	285 0 0	12 16 0	297 16 0	
86	86	71	63	306	2,260 10 0	327 10 0	2,588 0 0	A moiety of the bounties claimed on account of the immigrants per "Ward Chapman" has been refused.
42	50	7	4	103	1,803 0 0	101 5 0	1,904 5 0	
1	2	2	1	6	77 0 0	- - -	77 0 0	
1	–	–	–	1	19 0 0	- - -	19 0 0	
78	86	16	17	197	3,306 0 0	203 14 0	3,509 14 0	
37	48	6	4	85	1,460 0 0	84 5 0	1,544 5 0	
92	99	21	9	221	3,804 0 0	208 19 0	4,012 19 0	Twenty-five per cent. on account of the immigrants per "Gilmore" remains unpaid.
58	58	20	19	155	2,394 0 0	203 14 0	2,597 14 0	
75	98	20	22	215	3,507 0 0	194 18 0	3,701 18 0	
89	107	24	18	251	3,841 0 0	207 4 0	4,048 4 0	
7,183	7,599	2,568	2,173	19,523	309,718 10 0	17,387 12 10	327,106 2 10	

to this colony. The aggregate measurement of the whole number of ships is about 36,170 Tons.

(B.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

showing the Number from each County, and the aggregate Number from each of the grand Sub-divisions of and IRELAND.

SCOTLAND.				IRELAND.							
Northern Counties.		Southern Counties.		ULSTER.		LEINSTER.		CONNAUGHT.		MUNSTER.	
Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.	Counties.	No. of Souls.
Caithness -	12	Edinburgh -	337	Donegal -	416	Longford -	113	Leitrim -	76	Clare - -	856
Sutherland -	–	Haddington -	25	Londonderry -	281	West Meath -	174	Sligo - -	52	Kerry - -	62
Ross-shire -	13	Berwickshire -	20	Antrim -	467	East Meath -	106	Mayo - -	68	Cork - -	248
Cromartie -	1	Roxburghshire	21	Fermanagh -	671	Louth -	137	Galway -	772	Waterford -	112
Nairn - -	4	Selkirkshire -	5	Tyrone -	1,064	King's County	371	Roscommon -	268	Tipperary -	2,226
Inverness-shire	34	Peebles -	14	Down -	557	Kildare -	194			Limerick -	1,090
Murray or Elgin	12	Lanarkshire -	238	Cavan -	427	Dublin -	604				
Banff - -	6	Dumfriesshire	48	Monaghan -	197	Queen's Co. -	135				
Aberdeen -	54	Galloway -	27	Armagh -	338	Carlow -	98				
Kincardine -	11	Ayrshire -	110			Wicklow -	163				
Forfarshire -	74	Dumbarton -	25			Kilkenny -	359				
Fifeshire -	121	Argyleshire -	69			Wexford -	142				
Kinross -	9	Renfrewshire	94								
Clackmannan	8	Stirling -	35								
Perthshire -	140	Linlithgow -	3								
Orkney and Shetland Isles.	6	Bute - -	2								
	504		1,112		4,218		2,596		1,236		5,294

and Ireland respectively, are shown in Return (C.)

(C.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

BOUNTY IMMIGRANTS, who arrived in the Colony during the Year 1841.

RELIGION.				EDUCATION.			MARRIED OR SINGLE ADULTS.			
				NUMBER OF ADULTS WHO CAN			MARRIED.		SINGLE.	
Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Jews	Free-thinkers.	Read and Write	Read only.	Neither Read nor Write.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
10,009	9,476	37	1	8,643	2,961	9,178	9,425	9,396	9,758	4,203

(D.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURN of the Number of DEATHS and BIRTHS on Board EMIGRANT SHIPS which arrived in the Colony during the Year 1841; and also of the Number which occurred in Quarantine.

IMMIGRANTS, WHERE LANDED.	ON THE VOYAGE.					IN QUARANTINE.					GRAND TOTAL.		REMARKS.
	Deaths.			Births.		Deaths.			Births.				
	14 Years & upwards.	From 7 to 14.	Under 7.	Males.	Females.	14 Years & upwards.	From 7 to 14.	Under 7.	Males.	Females.	Deaths.	Births.	
Sydney	84	6	304	96	97	10	–	2	–	–	408	198	In the number of deaths and births are included those which occurred amongst persons who were passengers in ships conveying bounty immigrants, but who were not themselves bounty immigrants. The number of such persons who arrived in the colony during the Year 1841 was as follows:—1,069 adult males, 723 adult females, 214 male children, and 176 female children; making a total of 2,182 souls; which, added to the number of bounty immigrants, makes a total of 21,705 persons landed from emigrant ships.
Port Phillip	51	30	141	58	69	–	–	–	–	–	222	127	
TOTAL	135	36	445	154	166	10	–	2	–	–	630	320	

(E.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURN of the TRADES or CALLINGS to which the BOUNTY IMMIGRANTS, who arrived during the Year 1841, professed to belong; showing the Number of each Calling, and the Average Rate of Wages given during the last Quarter of the Year.

TRADES.	SYDNEY.			PORT PHILLIP.			GRAND TOTAL.	Average Wages per Annum, with Food and Lodging.
	Time of Arrival.		TOTAL SOULS.	Time of Arrival.		TOTAL SOULS.		
	Between Jan. and June 1841.	Between July and Dec. 1841.		Between Jan. and June 1841.	Between July and Dec. 1841.			
MALES:								£ s.
Agricultural labourers	865	2,134	2,999	533	1,617	2,150	5,149	22 0
Blacksmiths	48	132	185	26	79	105	300	45 10
Boot and shoe makers	17	–	17	12	1	13	30	44 0
Brickmakers	8	8	16	1	–	1	17	43 0
Bricklayers	3	56	59	6	36	42	101	51 0
Butchers	4	2	6	2	–	2	8	36 0
Bakers	7	2	9	1	–	1	10	42 0
Carters	–	1	1	–	1	1	2	28 0
Carpenters	72	322	394	65	176	241	635	45 0
Cabinet-makers	5	2	7	2	–	2	9	32 0
Coachmen	5	–	5	–	–	–	5	25 0
Coopers	5	1	6	2	–	2	8	47 10
Domestic Servants	98	11	89	6	–	6	45	25 0
Grooms	18	16	29	7	4	11	40	26 0
Gardeners	49	57	106	16	27	43	149	32 0
Millwrights	2	1	3	–	–	–	3	42 0
Plasterers	5	–	5	2	–	2	7	47 10
Quarrymen	4	2	6	1	1	2	8	51 0
Shepherds	60	113	173	41	117	158	331	24 0
Stonemasons	11	59	70	23	36	59	129	54 0
Sawyers	14	20	34	4	6	10	44	37 10
Tailors	14	–	14	5	–	5	19	24 0
Wheelwrights	12	17	29	–	12	12	41	45 0
Whitesmiths	2	9	11	–	1	1	12	47 10
Miscellaneous	55	12	67	13	1	14	81	
TOTAL	1,505	2,997	4,300	768	2,115	2,883	7,183	
FEMALES:								£
Cooks	16	29	45	5	19	24	69	14 a 30
Dressmakers	54	7	61	23	–	23	84	9 a 16
Dairy maids	–	156	156	–	51	51	207	12 a 30
Farm servants	125	265	390	24	37	61	451	10 a 15
General house servants	93	561	584	45	478	523	1,107	10 a 18
Housemaids	279	345	624	314	620	931	1,558	12 a 15
Housekeepers	13	6	19	2	30	32	51	8 a 30
Kitchen maids	31	46	77	–	1	1	78	12 a 30
Ladies maids	4	13	17	1	–	1	18	8 a 13
Laundresses	18	34	52	9	9	18	70	12 a 26
Needlewomen	19	15	34	1	–	1	35	10 a 14
Nursery governesses	27	5	32	2	–	2	34	6 a 18
Nursemaids	125	217	342	23	54	77	419	5 a 13
Miscellaneous	17	1	18	3	–	3	21	
TOTAL	751	1,700	2,451	452	1,299	1,751	4,202	

REMARKS.

According to the custom of the colony, food and lodging are almost invariably allowed to out-door labourers, mechanics, &c. in the country districts, where alone any considerable demand for labour now exists.

The Quantity of food usually allowed is as follows:

Meat, 7 to 10 lbs. } per week.
Flour, 7 to 10 lbs. }
Sugar, 2 lbs. } or milk in lieu. }
Tea, 3 oz. }

The clothing required by a labourer and his wife, and its average cost in the remote, and consequently most expensive districts in the country, is as follows:

Labourer:	£ s. d.
One moleskin jacket	0 12 0
Two vests	0 8 0
One pair moleskin trousers	0 12 0
One pair flush trousers	0 12 0
Four shirts—2 regatta, 8s.; 2 striped, 5s.	0 13 0
Three pair boots	1 10 0
One shepherd's coat	1 10 0
Three pair socks	0 4 6
Two handkerchiefs	0 2 0
One pair blankets	0 12 0
One rug	0 5 0
One mattress	0 12 0
One straw hat	0 5 0
TOTAL	£7 17 6

Wife:	
One print dress	0 10 0
One merino dress	1 5 0
One flannel petticoat	0 10 0
Four pair hose	0 10 0
Three pair shoes	0 2 6
Four caps	0 5 0
One shawl	0 10 0
Three shifts	0 13 0
One pair stays	0 15 0
Three aprons	0 6 0
One straw bonnet	0 8 0
TOTAL	£6 16 6

The wives of labourers (if their services are required in ordinary farm occupations) receive somewhat less than one half of the wages, and about two thirds of the quantity of food allowed to the husband.

Boys of an age for work may obtain from 8*l.* to 10*l.* per annum, with food.

Young children requiring the constant attendance of their mother are a great hindrance to the engagement and well-doing of new-coming immigrants, and immigrants so encumbered must be satisfied with a small pecuniary compensation for their labour.

(F.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

A RETURN of the Total Number of IMMIGRANTS of all Classes who arrived in the Colony during the Year 1841.

IMMIGRANTS, WHERE LANDED.	ON BOUNTY.					UNASSISTED.					GRAND TOTAL.				
	Adults.		Children.		TOTAL.	Adults.		Children.		TOTAL.	Adults.		Children.		TOTAL.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Sydney - - -	4,500	4,510	1,593	1,354	11,757	1,568	876	238	213	2,895	5,668	5,386	1,831	1,567	14,652
Port Phillip - - -	2,688	3,089	974	820	7,766	498	166	68	55	789	3,276	3,255	1,042	875	8,548
TOTAL - -	7,188	7,599	2,567	2,174	19,523	2,061	1,042	306	268	3,677	9,944	8,641	2,873	2,442	23,200

Remark.—In the number of unassisted immigrants are included 127 adult males, 381 adult females, and 72 children, who embarked as bounty immigrants, but were not paid for by the Government, in consequence of their ineligibility under the Colonial Regulations.

(G.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Yearly Amount of IMMIGRATION during the several Years, from 1st of January 1838 to 31st December 1841.

IMMIGRANTS, WHERE LANDED.	1838.			1839.			1840.			1841.			GRAND TOTAL.		
	Assisted.	Unassisted.	TOTAL.	Assisted.	Unassisted.	TOTAL.	Assisted.	Unassisted.	TOTAL.	Assisted.	Unassisted.	TOTAL.	Assisted.	Unassisted.	TOTAL.
Sydney - - -	6,102	1,478	7,580	7,852	2,802	10,654	4,275	1,297	5,572	11,757	2,895	14,652	29,986	8,472	38,458
Port Phillip - - -	-	-	-	564	150	714	1,491	549	1,964	7,776	789	8,548	9,751	1,475	11,226
TOTAL - -	6,102	1,478	7,580	8,416	2,952	11,368	5,696	1,840	7,536	19,523	3,677	23,200	39,737	9,947	49,684

Immigration Office, Sydney, 14th May 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MERREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

No. 4.

No. 173.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir GEORGE GIPPS to Lord STANLEY.

No. 4.
Sir George Gipps to Lord Stanley, 20th Sept. 1842.

Government House, Sydney, 20th September 1842.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report of the Committee of the Legislative Council of this colony on the subject of immigration, as also a copy of the resolutions which were passed by the Council on the last day of its session (the 9th instant), adopting and approving the Report.

Immigration Report, No. 1. p. 50. Resolutions, No. 2. p. 143.

Having in my despatch, No. 88., of the 14th of May last, addressed your Lordship fully on the subject of immigration, I feel it unnecessary to accompany the Report with many observations.

The view taken by the Committee of the probable want of immigrants is, I have reason to believe, correct. There is not, it appears to me, any actual dearth

NEW SOUTH WALES.

dearth of labour in the colony; but there is ground to apprehend that, ere long, a scarcity of it will again be felt.

With respect to the project of a loan, I beg leave to state, that I still adhere to the opinion I have often expressed, that we should endeavour, if possible, to do without one; but that if the want of immigrants alone stand in the way of the prosperity of the colony, and we cannot obtain money to pay for the passage of them in any other way, we ought not to shrink from resorting to a loan; remembering, however, always, that we cannot raise one without the assistance of Her Majesty's Government.

We still continue to sell but little land; but our ordinary revenue suffices, I am happy to say, to cover all our expenses.

I have, &c.
(signed) Geo. Gipps.

No. 3. p. 144.

P.S.—I take the liberty of enclosing a printed copy of the remarks which I made in the Legislative Council on the 9th instant, when the Report of the Committee on Immigration (which is now enclosed) was under consideration.

(signed) G. G.

Enclosure 1. in No. 4.

Encl. 1. in No. 4.

Report from the Committee on Immigration; with the Appendix and Minutes of Evidence.

Extract from the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Council, No. 2.

Tuesday, 17th May 1842.

2. Immigration: Committee appointed to consider the question of Immigration generally, with the view of ascertaining the present and prospective demands of the colonists for labour, and how the same can be most effectually and economically met; with instructions to take evidence, if necessary, and report:—

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Australia.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.	M. H. H. Macarthur.
The Auditor-General.	Sir John Jamison.
Mr. Jones.	Mr. James Macarthur.

His Excellency the Governor then laid upon the table the undermentioned Papers on the subject of Immigration; viz.

(1.) Report from Francis L. S. Merewether, Esq., on the subject of Immigration generally, for the year 1841, with an Appendix; to be printed.

(2.) Return of the Number of Immigrants landed in New South Wales, between the 1st of January 1841 and the 30th of April 1842, on whom Bounty has been refused.

(3.) Return of the Amount of Quarantine Expenses charged against parties importing Immigrants on Bounty into New South Wales, between the 1st of January 1841 and the 30th of April 1842.

(4.) Return showing the Number of Permissions to import Immigrants on Bounty, granted in the several quarters of the years between that which ended the 31st December 1837 and the quarter ended 31st December 1840, which permissions respectively expired in the several quarters between that which ended on the 31st December 1839 and the 31st December 1841; showing, also, the proportion of these permissions acted on and the proportion not acted on.

(5.) Return distinguishing the Number of English, Scotch, and Irish Immigrants introduced into New South Wales during the year 1841.

(6.) Return of the Number of Immigrants landed in the Colony of New South Wales; on whom Bounty has been paid, or is now payable, in conformity with the Regulations of 3d March 1840.

To be referred to the Committee on Immigration.

Report from the Committee on Immigration, 1842.

The Committee of the Legislative Council, appointed on the 17th May 1842, to consider the question of Immigration generally, with the view of ascertaining the present and prospective Demands of the Colonists for Labour, and how the same may be most effectually and economically met, with Instructions to take Evidence, if necessary, and to report, having carefully examined the subject, have agreed to the following Report.

The attention of your committee has been directed to an examination of the working of the bounty system; the only one which, during the past year, has been in activity for the introduction of immigrants. Until the suspension of its operations, in consequence of the decline of the land fund, that system provided a supply of labour sufficient not only to remove the dearth which before prevailed, but to accumulate a disposable amount

of that commodity to which recourse may be had, until the period, not very distant, it may be hoped, when the course of events shall admit of a further supply being furnished. Between the 1st of July 1841 and the 30th June 1842 there have been introduced into the Port of Sydney 4,502 men, 4,663 women, and 3,186 children; 12,351 persons, on account of whom bounties and gratuities, amounting to 205,774*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* have been paid. Within the same interval there have been landed in Port Phillip 2,720 men, 2,910 women, and 1,750 children; 7,380 persons; and the attendant expense has been 122,789*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* Between the same dates, 1,395 individuals have arrived on whom the bounties have been withheld, on various grounds of objection, to the amount of 22,567*l.* There have arrived also 2,300 persons not claiming the assistance of Government; thus 23,426 persons have been added to the population within 12 months. The sum total expended in the introduction of the 19,731 persons on whom the bounty was paid, has been (excluding the expenses of the quarantine and immigration departments) 328,563*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* The average cost per head has therefore been 16*l.* 13*s.*, or about 2*s.* 4*d.* less than the average of the previous year.

Appendix (A.)

Appendix (B.)

Appendix (C.), (C. a.)

Appendix (D.)

In reporting, in conformity with their instructions, as to the mode in which the demand for labour may be most effectually and economically met, your committee do not hesitate to state their persuasion that in both these respects the advantages of the bounty system have been satisfactorily established. But upon the subject of the qualifications of the immigrants as to character and usefulness, they cannot express themselves but with a very considerable abatement of satisfaction and approval.

Respecting too large a proportion of them, it is impossible not to observe that the very attempt to pass them off as qualified in accordance with the regulations of Government must be a standing disgrace to the parties engaged in it. Proofs of deception attempted, and of fraud and forgery actually committed, by persons in the United Kingdom connected with the occupation of sending out emigrants under bounty orders, and instances of personation, and of fictitious characters, exposed by the vigilance of the Immigration Board, have been painfully frequent. Where so many instances have upon inquiry been brought to light, there is reason to allow much weight to the opinion of witnesses, that there may have been in all probability many other cases in which detection has not taken place. It has been accordingly a question with your committee, whether they ought not to recommend the absolute discontinuance of a system under which it has been proved that such abuses could be practised; and that recommendation they would certainly not withhold, if they could be satisfied that those abuses formed an inseparable part of the system. But they have hesitated to take that extreme step, as past experience has shown that the bounty system admits of being carried on without such attendant deceptions and with a superiority of advantage to the colony in point of economy over any other system which has hitherto been attempted or proposed. After the largest allowance has been made for the number of useless and unsuitable persons who have so satisfied the letter of the regulations, as only not to be rejected, and whose services must therefore be considered as dearly purchased, it yet remains certain that cases of an unexceptionable nature have preponderated, and in a high proportion. It is impossible to look around in any direction without discovering instances of skilful workmen and of industrious well-conducted families and individuals added to the community by the operation of the bounty system during the period now under observation. It would therefore be as questionable in point of justice as of policy to abandon a system productive of such undeniable advantages, on account of some attendant abuses and defects. At any rate, it should not be given up so long as a reasonable hope remains that such abuses can be suppressed, and the public be enabled to obtain the benefits of the system without its attendant drawbacks. It is right to bring into notice, that whenever a breach of the regulations is detected, the bounties are withheld; and therefore, although there may have been brought to the colony a number of individuals from whose residence in it there is but little prospect of any benefit arising, yet the public is at least exempt from all charge for their conveyance. The prominent feature in the bounty system is, that it provokes and enforces strict inquiry into the character and qualifications of every individual introduced by it. And if it must be presumed that objectionable cases do frequently pass undetected, in spite of the utmost vigilance which can be exercised, it must be admitted, on the other hand, that similar cases might occur under any other system which should introduce immigrants, without exacting on their arrival in the colony, and preliminary to the payment of their passage-money, that inquiry into their characters and qualifications which the bounty emigrants invariably undergo. Neither does the amount of bounties withheld furnish any accurate test of the extent of unworthiness prevailing among the parties so rejected; because, although the forfeiture is justly imposed for every breach of the regulations, yet it is obvious that persons may be highly respectable in themselves, without exactly answering the conditions by which they would be qualified to receive a free passage at the expense of the colony; great numbers, for instance, have been refused on the ground of their following the trades of tailors, coopers, cabinet-makers, brewers, and other occupations not admissible under the regulations; and yet such persons may be altogether unexceptionable in themselves, and will undoubtedly form a useful acquisition to the colony which obtains their services without expense. In the instance also of young women who have been refused the bounty, in consequence of their not being *bonâ fide* under the charge of relatives or protectors, as required by the regulations, although your committee regard the strict observation of that condition as most important to the moral welfare and security of the parties, and therefore view with the highest disapprobation

Merewether, Q. 20.

Christie, Q. 22.

Innes, Q. 25.

Savage, Q. 8.

Appendix (C.)

NEW SOUTH WALES.

bation the attempts which have been made to evade it, still it would be by no means just or charitable to conclude that the unprotected are uniformly unworthy.

Nevertheless, while these considerations in some degree abate the unfavourable impression created by the detection of so many abuses under the bounty system, your committee still feel, after every allowance has been made, that there remains evidence of improprieties which can scarcely be spoken of in terms of too great severity. The disposition to resort to such practices cannot but be checked by the numerous examples of severe pecuniary loss sustained by the characters of emigration ships, through the refusal of the bounties in all cases where abuses have been discovered; and this community is under the deepest obligations to the Executive Government for its firmness in imposing those penalties. Should that check, however, prove insufficient, and if no other can be devised to prevent the recurrence of systematic deceptions, and to suppress such frequent breaches of morals as have occurred during the past year, your committee must, in fulfilment of their duty, recommend the abolition of the system. The points which they consider to require especially a corrective or total remodelling are the following:

1. The mode of certifying the age, occupation, character, and identity of the parties who are permitted to embark as bounty emigrants.

2. The maintenance of order and morality among the emigrants during the voyage.

Upon examination it will appear that the present form of certificate, even with the checks devised by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, is extremely defective as a security against imposture. From the appearance of many of those certificates which have been brought under the notice of your committee, a suspicion is excited that the alterations and erasures which they exhibit have been effected subsequently to their attestation, and with a purpose clearly fraudulent. These certificates, it appears, are generally placed in the hands of the bounty agents after the commissioners agent has finally mustered the parties, and has certified that he sees no reason to doubt that they are really the persons described. It is therefore plain that there exists no security against the subsequent introduction of false statements; and the evidence taken before this committee affords full proof that some of the parties entrusted with the certificates are not incapable of such dishonesty. As a check upon this, it is recommended that all such certificates should be delivered up to the government emigration agent when he musters the parties; and that he, after having signed, transmit them to the colonial secretary at Sydney, or to the superintendent at Port Phillip, according as the vessel may be chartered for one or the other destination.

Merewether, Q. 24.

Savage, Q. 34.

Innes, Q. 14.

Browne, Q. 42.

Some question may still be raised as to the safety and expediency of the agents of Government in England granting any certificates, in however general terms they may be expressed, because it is scarcely possible that they should not be construed, by parties interested, to imply some degree of at least negative approval. Thus regarded, they tend to restrict the expression of a perfectly unfettered opinion by the Board here upon the qualifications of the immigrants, or it is felt as a hardship that the bounty should be withheld upon parties who are supposed (however erroneously) to have been officially approved before they left England. But supposing that the system of requiring certificates, as at present, is to be upheld, your committee would propose the following alterations in the details of the established practice:

Browne, Q. 32.

Merewether, Q. 23. 24.

1. It is recommended that the declaration by every applicant for a free passage should include a statement "that he or she has not paid nor promised to pay, nor to his or her knowledge has there been paid, or promised on his or her account by any other person, any sum of money or valuable consideration in addition to the bounty for his or her passage, or for the passage of his or her child or children."

Merewether, Q. 44.

Savage, Q. 43. 46.

2. The certificate, to be signed by two respectable householders, should state "that they have known the applicant, if an adult, regularly working for a period of —— years (not less than ——) at the trade or occupation of ——."

3. The certificate of the clergyman and magistrate should not be annexed to the foregoing declarations, as at present, but should be contained on a separate paper; and when signed by the clergyman and magistrate, should be by one of them forwarded by post direct to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners. In addition to the present form, every such certificate should testify "that the applicant, and the respectable householders, are known by such clergyman and magistrate; and that all which is attested, as to the age, character, and occupation of the party proposing to emigrate, is true."

Your committee repeat the expression of their doubt whether certificates of this tendency can be required of parties proposing to emigrate, without impeaching, in some degree, the privilege of withholding the bounty for such parties if their examination here before the Immigration Board should prove unsatisfactory. But assuming that such certificates are to be required, they cannot doubt the propriety of their being so framed as to render the evasion of them a matter of extreme difficulty; and they are of opinion that this end would be promoted by the adoption of the alterations now suggested. With the same object in view, they consider it would be very serviceable if the government emigration agents were to institute such inquiries as their local circumstances would afford them excellent opportunities to prosecute, relative to the age, character, and occupation of every emigrant proposing to claim a free passage on bounty; and that it should be studiously made public, so that the parties interested should be fully apprised of the fact, that such inquiries would be made, and the result stated to the colonial secretary at Sydney, or to the superintendent at Port Phillip. This course of proceeding, while it would

would be exempt from even that degree of implied approval which the present certificate, however qualified in its terms, may be supposed to carry, would suggest valuable hints for inquiry to the Immigration Board; and by the augmented dread of detection which it must inspire, would have the effect of deterring the bounty agents in England from attempting or conniving at any evasion of the regulations. The government emigration agents resident at the several seaports are the persons who have the best opportunities to detect and baffle such unprincipled attempts as are proved to have been resorted to during the past year; and on the part of those gentleman it may be required and expected, that both as relates to investigating the correctness of certificates in favour of emigrants, and to the arrangements for their health and comfort during the voyage, a more active degree of interference should be exercised than they appear hitherto to have considered to form part of their duty.

But the most indispensable improvement called for is in the description of persons filling the office of surgeon to the bounty ships. A moment's consideration of the circumstances under which the passengers by an emigrant ship are brought together, and must be associated during the voyage, will sufficiently show the importance of the station filled by the medical superintendent. Even if that most becoming provision of the bounty system were punctually carried into operation, according to which parental superintendence or family connexion should be pledged for the security of the most defenceless, there would still remain such offices to be discharged towards the passengers as none but a man of firmness, discretion, forbearance, and benevolence, could appropriately fulfil. It was with the desire and expectation of inducing medical men of suitable qualifications to engage in the emigration service, that your committee in 1840 advised the adoption of that part (among others) of the government regulations which established the payment of a gratuity to the surgeon for every approved bounty immigrant landed in the colony. Their surprise and disappointment have been equally excited on discovering that this provision has been perverted from its proper design, and has gone to swell the profits of the emigration agents instead of being employed, as was intended, for the better protection and management of the emigrants during the voyage. This is a point of such vital importance to the preservation of health, order, and morals in the bounty ships, that your committee have directed their most assiduous attention to the best means of remedying the evils, which, in the course of the present inquiry, have been brought under their notice as arising from the want of proper medical superintendence. They believe it to be unquestionable, that surgeons of the navy would be the most proper and effective officers who could be appointed to the superintendence of emigrant vessels. If their employment in that service should be sanctioned by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, your committee entertain a hope, that their time, while so employed, might be allowed to be reckoned as a period of active service. They also recommend, that the pay, allowances, and gratuities of surgeons so engaged should be on the same scale as was fixed in the government immigration vessels; and that the pay and allowances, no less than the gratuities, should form a charge upon the sum to be issued in payment of bounties for each vessel; and that the payment should be direct from the Colonial Treasury to the surgeon, without coming at all into the hands of the agent.

Appendix (E.) Merewether, Q. 46.

Savage, Q. 14.

Innes, Q. 10. 33.

Browne, Q. 15.

Should it be found impracticable to obtain the services of naval surgeons, the next most desirable expedient which presents itself, is the engagement of surgeons who have been previously accustomed to the sea, and are of suitable character and age. This would require the establishment of some satisfactory test for ascertaining the medical skill and the scarcely less important personal qualifications of parties seeking the appointment now under consideration. It is the opinion of your committee, not only that the power of nominating the surgeon should be altogether removed from the owners or agents of the vessel, and transferred to the Commissioners for Colonial Lands and Emigration, subject to the production of proper professional and other recommendatory certificates, but that the amount of remuneration to be received by the surgeon should be fixed at the discretion of Government, and the Commissioners be empowered to conclude an agreement with him accordingly, authorising him to receive payment by order of the governor, on satisfactory proof being afforded of his having duly discharged his duty. By this means the combination now subsisting between the medical officer and the bounty agent, to whom he looks for his remuneration, would be broken off. The surgeon would become, as he ought to be, a virtual officer of Government, under an obligation, arising from both duty and self-interest, to use his best exertions for the welfare of the emigrants entrusted to his charge, and to render to the colonial government a fair and impartial report of them, according to the best estimate which his opportunities of intercourse and observation during the voyage have enabled him to form.

Merewether, Q. 21. Browne, Q. 20, 21.

Christie, Q. 24.

During the 12 months ending with the 30th of June last, immigration has been carried on to an unprecedent extent; the numbers added to the population from that source alone having been, as was before shown, 23,426. Nevertheless, those new arrivals, with exceptions too few to affect the main position, have rapidly found engagements at wages, which though somewhat reduced, are still sufficiently liberal to satisfy any reasonable expectations which could have been entertained by the immigrants themselves. The occurrences of the period now under consideration have satisfied your committee, that in their previous reports they have not at all overstated the want of labour prevailing in the colony at those periods. They can also trace the soundness of that policy by which large masses of population were introduced at once into the colony. No fewer than 1,000 have sometimes arrived within a period of two days, and although the entire number did not fail to obtain employment

Appendix (F.), (F. a.) Appendix (G.) Miles, Q. 3.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Savage, Q. 50.
Innes, Q. 37, 38.
Browne, Q. 49, 50.
Christie, Q. 25, 26.
Miles, Q. 4.
Merewether, Q. 40, 41.

employment within a period surprisingly short, yet the addition of so many serviceable hands, all seeking engagements at the same instant, could not fail to produce an effect in keeping down the general rate of wages. That effect would not so certainly have followed if the same number of emigrants had been brought in small detachments, and at more distant intervals. At the same time, although wages have been so far reduced as in some degree to meet the circumstances of the employer, they have not fallen below that level which enables the labourer to provide an honest and comfortable subsistence for himself and family. Neither are there symptoms of a superabundance of labour in any part of the territory. There are few, if any, instances of industrious and skilful persons wanting employment. Among particular classes, consisting of those who have not learned a trade, or are unqualified for manual labour, depending rather upon pursuits of a higher order, there may be some excess of candidates for situations. But it should be remarked, that if the parties in question, that is, such as are qualified to act as clerks, overseers, tutors, and the like, have arrived here under the bounty system, it can have been only through a breach or evasion of the regulations, which were framed with a design to exclude them. In every state of society there will always be a certain proportion, which, from incompetency, or through mere casualty, experiences difficulty in obtaining employment; but there is

Miles, Q. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.

nothing in the evidence before your committee to lead them to suspect that such proportion is excessive here, or that it has very materially augmented with the recent increase of the population. Under these circumstances it appears most obvious that there exists a continued necessity for the introduction of immigrants; whether by the bounty system, or by any other, is of comparatively minor importance, provided that such introduction of additional hands be certain, sufficient, and economical. The copious fund of labour which was introduced during the past year, among other beneficial effects upon the welfare of the colony, has had that of enabling the settlers to carry on the operations of their industry for a certain period, without the necessity of having recourse to any fresh supplies. But that period must necessarily be drawing to a close, and your committee are most strongly persuaded that unless measures be taken for the resumption of emigration, not later than the spring and summer of next year, the want of labour will be felt as injuriously here as ever; wages will rise to their former exorbitant rate, and the consequent exhaustion of property and embarrassment (arising from that cause), among the settlers, will be again experienced with even aggravated severity.

Scott, Q. 40.

With reference to the precise extent to which it is desirable that immigration should be carried, your committee see no reason to depart from the opinion which they have on former occasions expressed, that from 10,000 to 12,000 individuals may be introduced at the public expense every year, without occasioning any redundancy in the population. Your committee have had before them, during a succession of years, continued proofs of the tendency which employment has, in this colony, more than to keep pace with the supply of labour. Their persuasion therefore, founded upon such experience, is, rather that immigration, even to the extent here contemplated, augmented also as it undoubtedly would be by numerous individuals arriving without assistance from Government, would not sufficiently keep down wages to such a rate as employers could afford to pay, unless there should be at intervals, not too distant, a great increase (as in the past year) upon the ordinary average of numbers introduced. It might not be prudent to lay down as a positive certainty that such will be the case, but all reasonable probability appears to countenance such an expectation.

Under these circumstances, and deeming the continuance of immigration to be altogether indispensable to the improvement and even the maintenance of the colony, your committee have naturally looked with very great anxiety to the condition and prospects of the land fund. The vital importance of this question cannot be doubted, when it is recollected that upon the productiveness, of the land fund depends the continuance of immigration, and that the continuance of immigration is indispensable to the welfare of the colony. In having their attention directed to the virtual cessation of the sale of Crown lands, it has been impossible for your committee to omit all consideration of the causes to which that stoppage is attributable. In expression of the opinion entertained by the majority of the members, a resolution has been adopted, "that the raising of the minimum price of land of every description in the colony above 5*s.* per acre is impolitic." Under the prevailing uncertainty as to what measures may be adopted by the Imperial Parliament, and what may be the minimum price ultimately determined on, your committee deem that it would be unserviceable in them to pursue this part of the subject.

Appendix (H.) (H. a.) (H. b.) (H. c.) (H. d.)
Icely, Q. 17, 18, 19.
Appendix (I.)
Cox, Q. 8.
Scott, Q. 13.
Riddell, Q. 3.
Mitchell, Q. 10.

But to whatever cause the decline of the land revenue may be attributable, it is impossible not to acknowledge the sound discretion exercised by the Home Government in circumscribing the liabilities of the colony, by bringing emigration to a pause so soon as that decline began to be seriously apprehended. The decision of the Secretary of State to that effect was communicated in a despatch from Lord Stanley to Sir George Gipps, dated 8th February, in the present year; and was founded upon a report of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom an official return had been referred of the amount actually received into the treasury of New South Wales, on account of land sales in the half year ending 30th June 1841. The commissioners, judging from the data before them, estimated the balance in hand applicable to immigration on the 1st January 1842, at 68,424*l.*, and the probable net receipts of the land fund during the present year at 91,901*l.*, making a total of 160,325*l.*; subject, however, to liabilities for immigration charges during the first three or four months of 1842, to the amount of 118,200*l.* The surplus expected to be actually applicable to the continuance of immigration during the remaining portion of

of 1840, was stated at 48,125*l.* It will appear, from documents annexed to this report, how exceedingly the produce of the land revenue, during the present year, has fallen short of the anticipations entertained by the commissioners at its commencement. The notification of the colonial government, of its inability to meet the bounty orders conditionally issued*, and the decision of the Secretary of State to suspend further emigration on bounty orders†, appear to have been more than justified by the event. From the statements before them your committee collect, that the earliest occasion on which the interference of the home authorities was solicited by the colonial government, for the purpose of preventing too extensive an emigration from the United Kingdom, during the year 1842, was on the 2d November 1841, at which time the desired interference (though of course not yet known here) had actually taken place in England. The same measure had therefore, at nearly the same moment, suggested itself to the Home and the Colonial Governments; and this proceeded solely, in each case, upon an apprehended want of funds. No traces are to be met with of an impression anywhere prevailing, that further and continual immigration was not indispensable to the welfare of the colony; at least it does not appear that any expression of that opinion, or recommendation to that effect, is contained in any part of the official correspondence between the Colonial-office and the government of this colony; of which, so far as it relates to the suspension of emigration, your committee find copies among the papers placed before them. The want of funds is the only ground assigned for that suspension‡; and the duty of your committee is therefore limited to considering in what manner that obstacle to the advancement of the colony may be removed. Independently of the relief which, in the opinion of many of the witnesses examined before them, might be expected from a reduction of the minimum price of lands to its former rate of 5*s.* per acre, (which subject, as being now in the hands of Parliament, your committee have declined at present to pursue,) they have directed their attention to the proposal, which has already been more than once before them, of negotiating a loan on the security of the unsold Crown lands of the colony, the practicability and expediency of which was specially referred to their consideration by a vote of council on the 7th of June last.

Appendix (K.). (K. a.) (L.)

Reviewing the opinions upon this point, which they deliberately recorded in their reports for 1839 and 1840, they are far from discovering grounds for departing from those opinions, but are on the contrary more fully confirmed in them by all which has since occurred.

Your committee have also the strongest reasons for believing, that the parties who in the former of those years expressed their sense of the policy of raising a loan, have since had their first impressions in its favour strengthened; and that many others, who were formerly undecided or opposed in their sentiments to the proposed measure, may at this time be numbered among its advocates. In recommending that recourse should be had to a loan, your committee would be understood rather to affirm their sense of the policy and justice of that measure, than to offer any opinion as to the precise extent to which it ought to be carried. But they think it will be evident, that to whatever extent it may upon trial be found that the colony is capable of receiving, and advantageously employing, an additional population, to the same extent a loan may be securely applied to the purpose of introducing that population; because, wherever people are occupied to their own benefit, they must be every year adding to the resources of the government under which they live; and so, by their consumption of taxable articles, or by the purchase of land, swelling both the ordinary and the land revenue, will infallibly provide ample resources in repayment of the outlay occasioned by their introduction into the colony. Its resources must be multiplied and expanded by the efforts of an industrious population, and will equally languish in its absence. In support of the expediency of resorting to a loan to provide on the instant for the cost of immigration, your committee cannot but express their persuasion, grounded on observation of the occurrences of the preceding years, that the policy is extremely questionable of absorbing a large proportion of the surplus of disposable funds of the community in the purchase of land from Government, and remitting the whole amount in payment for labour imported. In this way such a scarcity arises of that circulation which is required to carry on the internal business of an active community, that the interchange of all commodities for money is nearly suspended, prices are beaten down to a ruinous state of depression, and it becomes more and more difficult to employ labour, even while the necessity for it is urgently and increasingly felt. All these inconveniences, your committee are of opinion, would be much abated if the introduction of labour could be for a time provided for by borrowed funds; thus leaving the employers of labour in possession of their own resources, which they would apply to the improvement of the country; and their attendant profits, a great proportion of which would naturally be invested in the purchase of land, would provide, without risk or difficulty, for the extinction of any debt of reasonable amount which might be contracted for the promotion of immigration in this season of emergency. It should also be remembered, that if this recommendation wear the appearance of a claim upon the resources of England, the welfare of England is involved, in a degree not inferior perhaps to that of the colony itself, in the first ex-

O'Brien, Q. 14. Scott, Q. 38, 39, 40. M'Leay, Q. 24, 25. Mackenzie, Q. 72.

Icely, Q. 38.

* 11th September 1841. † Lord Stanley to Sir George Gipps, 14th October 1841.

‡ Extracts despatches: Sir George Gipps to Lord Stanley, 13th September 1841. Sir George Gipps to Lord Stanley, 2d November 1841. Lord Stanley to Sir George Gipps, 8th February 1842, notifying suspension of emigration, and enclosing Report of Sir George Gipps to Lord Stanley, 14th May 1842.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

penditure, as well as in the final result of the application of the funds which it is proposed to raise in this manner. No part of any loan which may be raised on the credit of the colony will be withdrawn from the United Kingdom, but the whole will be expended in the advancement of the three chief and leading interests of the mother country. The shipping interest must be promoted by the extent of tonnage employed in the emigration service, and by the nursery of seamen afforded by the length of the voyage. The agriculturist would derive benefit through the demand created for victualling so many persons during a passage of such duration; while few events could be so favourable to the manufacturing interest of Great Britain, as the rapid growth here of a population dependent for the supply of their wants upon the products of its industry, and engaged in raising a staple article of export, the profits of which would enable them to be extensive consumers of British goods. In this way your committee deem it a most obvious and certain consequence, that whatever extent of aid may be, in the first instance, afforded by the mother country to the colony, in the introduction of population upon easy terms to the latter, the same will be amply and liberally repaid to the parent state as the yet untried resources of this distant dependency shall be more extensively brought into activity. On the other branch of the question, namely, the justice of providing by a deferred payment for the introduction of labour into the colony, whether it be immediately or only prospectively productive, it may be serviceable to refer to a passage in the Report of the Committee on the Debenture Bill, which sat during last year, and of which the colonial secretary was chairman:—"It cannot be objected that in raising a loan to defray the expenses of immigration, to be repaid at a future period, this is unjustly entailing a debt on posterity for the benefit only of the present generation. The effects of such an expenditure cannot be regarded as merely ephemeral. The best interests of the colony are permanently served by the introduction of what may be termed the productive classes of society. Property of every kind acquires an additional value from their presence, and the elements of future increase in the population thus introduced must be considered as highly conducive to the advancement of colonial prosperity generally. Besides, the outlay in introducing the families of labourers is immediate, but the benefit only prospective; until the children attain a sufficient age to work they are merely consumers, and not producers; and from the practice in this colony of supplying the families of labourers with rations, they become not unfrequently a serious burden on the employers of their parents. On these grounds your committee are of opinion that such a debt may justly be left for liquidation to the period when the greatest benefit from the outlay will be experienced."

In consequence of the length of time occupied in communicating with Melbourne, the report of your committee had been prepared before the statements concerning immigration could be fully received from that district; and it might therefore appear to the council that all their observations have reference principally, if not exclusively, to those parts of the colony which are nearer to the seat of government. But from a report by his Honour the superintendent of Port Phillip, it will appear, that the opinions entertained there by the most intelligent and best qualified persons, coincide with those expressed in this report; and this general concurrence is the more gratifying and valuable, as it is the result of independent views taken by observers placed at very considerable distances, and having had no opportunities of previous communication, by which their conclusions could be unconsciously biassed, and brought to a state of artificial agreement.

Appendix (M.) (N).

Your committee have, in conclusion, to draw the attention of the council once more to the extreme disparity existing in the proportionate numbers of immigrants from the different quarters of the United Kingdom. The returns annexed will show, that between the 1st of January 1841 and 30th of June 1842 the number of immigrants from Ireland alone has amounted to 16,892; while those from all other parts of the United Kingdom have been no more than 8,438. *It is the decided opinion of your committee, that such a distribution is practically inequitable towards the most considerable division of the empire at large. Upon whatever system immigration is henceforth to be conducted, it evidently ought to be placed on a footing more approaching to equality, in furnishing openings for the inhabitants of the different counties of the three kingdoms to avail themselves of its advantages. Under the present arrangement, vessels with emigrants sail from a very limited number of ports; in consequence of which, while such as have ready access to those ports enjoy an undue preference, the greater portion both of England and Scotland is almost precluded the opportunity of profiting by the offer of a free passage, and therefore contributes, in a very inconsiderable degree, comparatively, to increase the population of the colony. The only remedy which your committee can propose, is the same as was suggested by them last year; that the stations of vessels for the conveyance of emigrants to this country should be so distributed among the ports of the United Kingdom as to afford just facilities to the inhabitants of every quarter; and if it be found impracticable under the bounty system to secure such distribution, they would consider this so serious a defect in that system as to be almost of itself a sufficient reason to be urged for its discontinuance.

Appendix (O.) (P.) (Q.) (R.) (S.)

Savage. Q. 59.

Council Chamber,
26 August 1842.

W. G. Australia,
Chairman.

* Returns: Appendix (T.) Mortality on board Ships. Appendix (U.) Ships placed in Quarantine. Appendix (V.) Quarantine Expenses. Appendix (W.) (X.) (Y.) Abstract of the Returns from the Commissioners of Crown Lands, showing the number of persons occupying Stations beyond the Boundaries, the Population, extent of Cultivation, and number of Live Stock.

APPENDIX TO THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, 1843.

(A.)

RETURN of PERSONS who arrived at SYDNEY, in Private Ships, on Bounty, from 1st July 1841 to 30th June 1842.

No.	Name of Ship.	Date of Arrival.	Died during the Passage. Adults. M.	Adults. F.	Children. M.	Children. F.	Born during the Passage. M.	F.	Died in Quarantine. Adults. M.	Adults. F.	Children. M.	Children. F.	Number Landed. Adults. M.	Adults. F.	Children. M.	Children. F.	Amount Paid as Bounty. £	s.	d.	Gratuities to Surgeons, Officers, &c. £	s.	d.	Total Cost to the Colony. £	s.	d.
		1841:																							
1	Achilles	July 12	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	18	9	–	–	880	0	0	–	–	–	880	0	0
2	Herald	– 15	1	2	7	6	2	2	–	–	–	–	104	120	68	60	5,846	0	0	339	14	0	6,675	14	0
3	Helen	– 21	5	5	6	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	105	111	50	37	4,699	0	0	206	15	0	4,905	15	0
4	Queen Victoria	– 26	1	–	3	2	3	2	–	–	–	–	77	71	38	25	3,218	0	0	18	0	0	3,235	0	0
5	Burrampooter	Aug. 7	–	1	–	1	3	5	–	–	–	–	69	82	40	35	3,374	0	0	206	2	0	3,580	2	0
6	Cadet	– 9	1	1	11	6	1	3	–	–	–	–	61	66	49	35	3,043	0	0	199	10	0	3,296	10	0
7	Pearl	– 17	–	1	1	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	83	107	11	4	3,723	0	0	187	19	0	3,910	19	0
8	Eleanor	– 22	2	2	3	4	–	4	–	–	–	–	92	79	14	24	3,479	0	0	191	6	6	3,670	6	6
9	Elizabeth	– 23	1	1	5	4	1	2	–	–	–	–	130	111	60	43	5,194	0	0	311	11	0	5,505	11	0
10	Forth	– 28	1	3	–	2	2	2	–	–	–	–	91	99	28	21	3,890	0	0	214	18	0	4,104	18	0
11	Percy	– 28	–	1	1	2	–	1	–	–	–	–	93	102	59	30	4,303	0	0	254	6	0	4,559	6	0
12	Globe	– 28	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	3	1	6	223	0	0	–	–	–	223	0	0
13	Runnymede	– 30	–	–	1	–	1	2	–	–	–	–	80	114	12	4	3,986	0	0	209	0	0	4,159	0	0
14	Adam Lodge	– 30	–	2	2	7	1	1	–	–	–	–	87	92	59	33	3,871	0	0	229	7	0	4,100	7	0
15	John Renwick	Sept. 1	5	5	4	1	2	1	–	–	–	–	86	103	14	5	3,721	0	0	194	19	8	3,855	19	8
16	China	– 7	–	2	2	6	5	1	–	–	–	–	100	76	26	24	3,694	0	0	204	2	0	3,898	2	0
17	United Kingdom	– 7	–	1	10	20	2	7	–	–	–	–	164	144	76	63	6,857	0	0	405	19	0	7,262	19	0
18	Gilbert Henderson	– 16	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	83	109	7	8	3,728	0	0	189	0	0	3,917	0	0
19	Canton	– 18	–	–	4	7	2	1	–	–	–	–	101	80	13	16	3,569	0	0	192	10	0	3,761	10	0
20	William Turner	Oct. 5	1	–	1	2	3	1	–	–	–	–	81	87	36	29	3,542	0	0	214	1	0	3,756	1	0
21	James Moran	– 6	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	62	58	16	18	2,450	0	0	189	1	0	2,639	1	0
22	Lady Kennaway	– 19	–	1	1	3	3	–	–	–	–	–	92	92	15	10	3,631	0	0	187	10	0	3,818	10	0
23	Livingstone	– 21	–	–	–	5	–	5	–	–	–	–	67	79	48	33	3,504	0	0	202	19	6	3,706	19	6
24	New York Packet	– 23	1	1	4	5	4	–	4	4	1	–	71	72	63	38	3,452	0		64	14	0	3,516	14	0
25	Victoria	– 24	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	18	17	5	10	630	0		58	5	0	688	5	0
26	Ayrshire	– 25	2	5	12	5	1	–	–	1	1	–	94	94	50	66	4,407	0		272	0	0	4,679	0	0
27	Fairlie	Nov. 5	–	–	4	2	2	1	–	–	–	–	105	120	54	29	4,680	0	0	265	16	0	4,945	16	0
28	Larne	– 6	3	1	3	3	2	5	–	–	–	–	83	88	45	36	3,789	0	0	228	4	0	4,017	4	0
29	Trinidad	– 6	–	2	1	1	2	1	–	–	–	–	52	41	31	24	2,157	0	0	138	16	0	2,295	16	0
30	Lawar	– 11	–	–	–	–	1	2	–	–	–	–	52	54	8	11	2,154	0	0	114	4	0	2,268	4	0
31	Joseph Cunard	– 28	1	1	7	2	2	2	–	–	–	–	103	101	54	56	4,476	0	0	275	4	0	4,751	4	0
32	Albatross	– 30	–	2	1	1	4	3	–	–	–	–	85	130	23	24	4,350	0	0	201	12	0	4,551	12	0
33	Comet	Dec. 8	–	–	1	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	70	67	12	7	2,801	0	0	149	11	0	2,950	11	0
34	Columbine	– 3	1	–	1	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	87	91	40	29	3,844	0	0	226	13	0	4,070	13	0
35	Tropic	– 23	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	19	0	0	–	–	–	19	0	0
36	William Jardine	– 23	1	1	1	–	1	5	–	–	–	–	78	86	16	17	3,506	0	0	203	14	0	3,709	14	0
37	Emerald Isle	– 23	–	1	1	1	1	2	–	–	–	–	27	48	6	4	1,460	0	0	84	5	0	1,544	5	0
38	Lalla Rookh	– 26	–	–	1	–	5	3	–	–	–	–	58	58	20	19	2,394	0	0	203	14	0	2,597	14	0
39	Lady Clarke	– 26	1	–	–	–	2	4	–	–	–	–	75	98	20	22	3,507	0	0	194	18	0	3,701	18	0
		1842:																							
40	Marchioness of Bute	Jan. 7	–	1	1	2	2	1	–	–	–	–	116	107	42	36	4,667	0	0	296	19	0	4,963	19	0
41	Wilson	– 7	–	1	1	1	2	2	–	–	–	–	85	78	22	21	3,269	0	0	187	13	0	3,456	13	0
42	Duke of Roxburgh	– 10	1	2	3	4	2	2	–	–	–	–	69	77	25	22	3,064	0	0	185	3	0	3,249	3	0
43	Anne Milne	– 17	1	1	9	8	5	1	–	–	–	–	84	74	44	28	3,493	0	0	210	10	0	3,703	10	0
44	Agnes Ewing	– 18	1	3	4	5	1	1	–	–	–	–	79	78	38	41	3,528	0	0	215	12	0	3,743	12	0
45	Margaret	– 24	–	–	11	19	1	–	–	–	–	–	100	97	17	16	3,948	0	0	213	12	0	4,161	12	0
46	Carthaginian	– 28	2	–	4	2	1	3	–	–	–	–	67	57	26	30	2,696	0	0	46	10	0	2,742	10	0
47	Hope	– 29	4	4	2	2	2	1	–	–	–	–	77	80	27	30	3,[illegible]78	0	0	193	13	0	3,566	13	0
48	William Sharpies	– 29	2	3	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	114	118	62	55	5,278	0	0	316	13	0	5,594	13	0
49	Alfred	– 29	1	1	2	–	2	1	–	–	–	–	87	76	28	26	3,422	0	0	199	9	0	3,621	9	0
50	Mathesis*	– 30																							
51	Champion	Feb. 18	2	1	4	5	3	–	–	–	–	–	90	91	35	32	3,869	0	0	227	1	0	4,096	1	0
52	Agnes	– 13	–	–	–	3	2	–	–	–	–	–	86	86	45	35	3,823	0	0	203	3	8	4,031	3	8
53	Broom	– 13	4	2	11	10	2	2	–	–	–	–	91	125	59	47	4,864	0	0	308	14	0	5,172	14	0
54	Sir Edward Paget	– 14	–	2	1	2	1	1	–	–	–	–	81	70	29	25	3,239	0	0	216	6	0	3,455	6	0
55	Sarah Bousford	– 15	1	1	2	1	1	1	–	–	–	–	54	55	23	20	2,346	0	0	141	4	0	2,487	4	0
56	Nabob	– 20	–	–	4	13	2	6	–	–	–	–	59	58	27	24	2,523	0	0	163	4	0	2,686	4	0
57	Royal George	Mar. 8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	1	–	–	114	0	0	–	–	–	114	0	0
58	Palestine	– 6	–	–	1	–	4	1	–	–	–	–	73	88	22	19	3,149	0	0	182	15	0	3,331	15	0
59	Woodbridge	– 8	1	4	1	4	5	3	–	–	–	–	90	88	22	24	3,687	0	0	210	17	6	3,847	17	6
60	Sir Charles Napier*	Apr. 10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	158	4	0	158	4	0
	Totals		46	61	168	180	103	90	4	4	5	2	4,502	4,663	1,729	1,457	194,766	0	0	11,008	3	5	205,774	3	5

* By the ships "Mathesis" and "Sir Charles Napier" the following eligible bounty immigrants arrived:—Male adults, 77; female adults, 67; children, 51: total, 195. But bounties on their account were disallowed by his Excellency the Governor, in consequence of an unsatisfactory performance of their contract on the part of the importers, coupled with the proved occurrence of great irregularities during the passage.

Immigration Office, Sydney, 16th August 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MERREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

(B.)

RETURN of PERSONS who arrived at PORT PHILLIP, in Private Ships, on Bounty, from 1st July 1841 to 30th June 1842.

No.	Name of Ship.	Date of Arrival.	Died during the Passage. Adults. M.	Adults. F.	Children. M.	Children. F.	Born during the Passage. M.	F.	Died in Quarantine. Adults. M.	Adults. F.	Children. M.	Children. F.	Number Landed. Adults. M.	Adults. F.	Children. M.	Children. F.	Amount Paid, or still Due, as Bounty. £ s. d.	Gratuities to Surgeons, Officers, &c. £ s. d.	Total Cost to the Colony. £ s. d.
1	Royal Saxon	1841: July 17	1	1	–	1	–	4	–	–	–	–	99	104	14	6	3,962 0 0	204 11 0	4,166 11 0
2	England	– 17	–	2	7	9	3	3	–	–	–	–	135	114	53	41	5,356 0 0	313 5 0	5,669 5 0
3	George Fyffe	– 23	–	1	1	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	86	96	15	16	3,648 0 0	197 18 0	3,845 18 0
4	Brilliant*	– 26	–	–	–	–	1	2	–	–	–	–	5	12	–	–	325 0 0	12 15 0	335 15 0
5	William Abrams	– 26	1	2	2	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	61	62	23	24	2,617 0 0	160 10 0	2,777 10 0
6	Westminster	– 30	1	1	1	2	–	1	–	–	–	–	108	98	24	14	4,154 0 0	225 2 0	4,379 2 0
7	William Metcalf	Aug. 27	–	–	1	1	1	3	–	–	–	–	83	97	21	8	3,605 0 0	193 13 0	3,798 13 0
8	Strathfieldsaye	– 30	–	–	–	2	1	–	1	–	–	–	88	106	18	16	3,856 0 0	209 16 0	4,065 16 0
9	Forth	Sep. 18	–	–	2	1	–	2	–	–	–	–	82	104	19	16	3,759 0 0	203 0 0	3,962 0 0
10	Middlesex	– 30	–	2	–	1	2	2	–	–	–	–	90	99	19	11	3,7[illegible] 0 0	198 3 0	3,960 3 0
11	Thomas Arbuthnot	Oct. 2	1	1	1	1	7	1	–	–	–	–	92	92	37	26	3,866 0 0	232 4 0	4,098 4 0
12	Agricola	– 3	1	3	1	–	3	1	–	–	–	–	92	90	29	19	3,775 0 0	211 10 0	3,984 10 0
13	Enmore	– 4	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	43	53	1	6	1,849 0 0	86 0 0	1,935 0 0
14	Intrinsic	– 7	–	1	2	4	1	5	–	–	–	–	69	68	42	59	5,328 0 0	230 4 0	5,558 4 0
15	Catherine Jamieson	– 22	–	–	–	1	–	2	1	–	–	–	43	38	33	28	2,154 0 0	139 4 0	2,293 4 0
16	Lysander	– 22	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	80	105	30	14	3,675 0 0	201 0 0	3,876 0 0
17	Grindley	– 22	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	53	61	16	17	2,391 0 0	105 4 9	2,496 4 9
18	Diamond	Nov. 4	1	1	1	2	3	4	–	–	–	–	96	107	27	23	4,172 0 0	231 18 0	4,403 18 0
19	Wallace	– 26	–	2	–	4	1	2	–	–	–	–	105	103	47	50	4,604 0 0	290 6 0	4,894 6 0
20	Frances	– 28	1	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	29	31	18	14	1,345 0 0	83 12 0	1,428 12 0
21	Alan Ker	– 30	–	1	3	3	4	2	–	–	–	–	71	69	44	35	5,190 0 0	290 0 0	5,540 0 0
22	Mary Nixon	– 30	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	62	72	5	11	2,622 0 0	119 6 0	2,741 6 0
23	Marquis of Bute	– 30	1	–	3	4	2	1	–	–	–	–	80	78	52	34	3,377 0 0	209 16 0	3,586 16 0
24	Brankso-moor	Dec. 3	–	–	–	–	2	2	–	–	–	–	56	67	12	17	2,532 0 0	144 18 0	2,676 18 0
25	William Mitchell	– 16	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	9	1	–	285 0 0	12 16 0	297 16 0
26	Ward Chapman	– 16	2	–	6	11	4	3	–	–	–	–	86	86	71	63	2,260 10 0	327 10 0	2,588 0 0
27	Agostina	– 17	–	2	–	1	2	1	–	–	–	–	42	50	7	4	1,803 0 0	101 5 0	1,904 5 0
28	Asia	– 19	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	2	2	1	77 0 0	– – –	77 0 0
29	Gilmore	– 24	1	–	–	3	–	4	–	–	–	–	92	99	91	9	3,804 0 0	208 19 0	4,012 19 0
30	Alexander	– 27	–	–	2	4	1	2	–	–	–	–	82	107	24	18	3,841 0 0	207 4 0	4,048 4 0
31	Samuel Boddington	1842: Jan. 26	–	–	1	1	–	3	–	–	–	–	74	79	22	24	3,172 0 0	183 3 0	3,355 3 0
32	Robert Bene	– 26	–	1	12	3	6	8	–	–	–	–	115	94	71	57	4,856 0 0	248 16 6	5,104 16 6
33	William Nichol	Feb. 8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	10	11	6	4	439 0 0	28 18 0	467 18 0
34	Martin Luther	– 9	2	7	–	3	4	–	–	–	–	–	89	86	14	6	3,435 0 0	176 5 0	3,611 5 0
35	Manlius†	– 14	11	15	9	9	4	4	9	6	1	1	69	64	46	46	3,247 0 0	207 0 0	3,454 0 0
36	Thetis	– 18	–	2	3	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	82	90	23	15	3,493 0 0	194 15 0	3,687 15 0
37	Regulus	– 19	–	–	2	3	1	1	–	–	–	–	59	59	27	13	3,037 0 0	180 12 0	3,217 12 0
38	Himalaya	– 26	–	–	1	–	3	3	–	–	–	–	74	74	21	13	2,587 0 0	9 14 0	3,155 14 0
39	Earl of Durham†	June 18	–	–	–	–	2	2	–	–	–	–	35	34	20	17	1,558 0 0	– – –	1,558 0 0
		Totals	44	72	76	60	75	96	1	1	2,730	2,910	955	795	116,119 10 0	6,669 18 9	122,789 8 9

* Payment of the bounties on the immigrants, per "Brilliant," has not yet been authorized.

† This amount remains unpaid; its settlement is awaiting a report on the causes of the disease which led to the vessel being placed in quarantine.

‡ These immigrants were not imported on bounty, but received a grant of free passages from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, under special survey order held by Mr. Dendy.

FRANCIS L. S. MERREWETHER,
Agent for Immigration.

Immigration Office, Sydney,
16th August 1842.

(C.)

RETURN, showing the Amount of Bounty Refused, and the Cause of such Refusal, during the Year ending 30th June 1842.

CAUSES OF BOUNTY BEING REFUSED.	Number of Married Couples, on whom (with their Children, if any,) Bounties have been Refused.	Number of Single Males on whom Bounties have been Refused.	Number of Single Females on whom Bounties have been Refused.	Amount Refused.
				£
Ineligible callings	71	71	36	5,344
No certificates produced	2	22	19	855
Stated to be single in their certificates and without proof of their marriage	8	-	-	314
Certificates unsatisfactory, from having erasures, alterations, &c.	2	9	15	537
Certificates not countersigned by the Government Agents at the port of embarkation	2	-	-	126
Embarked as married, but found not to be so	3	-	-	174
Married, but not accompanied by husbands	-	-	13	* 397
Married, but claimed for as single †	-	3	5	152
Weak and infirm, and not likely to be useful	1	5	-	133
Unhealthy (bounty still payable on their production in health)	2	4	10	343
Insane	-	-	3	57
Died immediately after arrival	1	2	3	114
Left the colony immediately after arrival	2	6	-	220
Notorious improper characters	-	4	29	627
Not under proper protection	-	-	398	7,562
Under Age	-	2	4	114
Over Age	6	5	7	552
Not produced before the Immigration Board	-	-	3	57
Under assumed names	-	1	-	19
Married, but not accompanied by wives	-	3	-	87
Concerned in theft on board	3	-	-	119
Eligible, but not accompanied by an equal number of single females	-	73	-	1,387
Eligible but not paid for, in consequence of the non-fulfilment of contract, and neglect on the part of the importers	42	45	25	3,277
‡ TOTALS	145	255	570	22,567

* Including bounties on 17 children by whom eight of the women were accompanied.
† Of these women one was married on board by the master to the second officer.
‡ Comprising 1,395 individuals, including children.

Immigration Office, Sydney, 22d August 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MEREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

N.B.—The per-centage of disallowed bounties given by the immigration agent (Merewether Q. 14.) was calculated on amounts shewn in returns extending over a longer period. It will therefore be found to differ from the result of a calculation based on the amounts exhibited in the returns here printed.

Council Office, Sydney, 22d August 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MEREWETHER, Clerk of Councils.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

(C. a.)

RETURN of the Number of Surgeons and Officers of Immigrant Ships, from whom Gratuities have been wholly or partially withheld, during the Period from 1st July 1841 to 30th June 1842.

SHIPS.	Surgeons.	Masters.	Subordinate Officers.	Amount.
				£ s. d.
Queen Victoria	1	1	3	179 7 0
New York Packet	1	1	-	164 14 0
Albatross	1	-	-	20 0 0
Carthaginian	1	1	-	120 16 6
Mathesis	1	1	3	48 15 0
Agnes	1	1	3	21 9 4
Sir Charles Napier	-	1	2	34 15 0
TOTALS	6	6	11	589 16 10

Immigration Office, Sydney, 22d August 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MERREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

(D.)

RETURN of the Number of PERSONS who arrived in the Colony of NEW SOUTH WALES, from the 1st July 1841 to the 30th June 1842; distinguishing those brought out on Bounty from those who defrayed the Cost of their own Passage.

	Immigrants on Bounty.					Immigrants Unassisted.*					Grand Total.				
	Adults.		Children.		TOTAL.	Adults.		Children.		TOTAL.	Adults.		Children.		TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Sydney	4,502	4,663	1,729	1,457	12,351	1,466	959	264	270	2,949	5,968	5,622	1,993	1,727	15,300
Port Phillip	2,720	2,910	955	795	7,380	414	127	440	65	746	3,134	3,037	1,395	860	8,426
TOTALS	7,222	7,573	2,684	2,252	19,731	1,880	1,086	704	335	3,695	9,102	8,659	3,078	2,587	23,726

* In the number of unassisted immigrants are included 1,305 individuals (including children) who embarked as bounty immigrants, but were not paid for by the Government, in consequence of their ineligibility under the colonial regulations.

FRANCIS L. S. MERREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

Immigration Office, Sydney, 22d August 1842.

(E.)

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS FROM THE IMMIGRATION BOARD.

The "Queen Victoria."

. . . . . Of the prevalence of immorality in the "Queen Victoria" we entertain no doubt. . . . . Nor can we avoid forming the opinion expressed by the witness A——, "that the immorality was so open that the doctor must have known it." That it was

was sanctioned or even connived at by that gentleman we are far from asserting; but we do think that from easiness of disposition, and perhaps from too great freedom with the immigrants, he lost his authority, and was obliged to pretend ignorance of practices which he had no longer the power to check.

* * * * * * * *

The sale of spirits is an irregularity which appears to have existed on board the "Queen Victoria," and from the admission of the surgeon, to have received his sanction. He states, that on a petition from the immigrants he permitted spirits to be sold in consequence of the badness of the water. This indulgence, if so it can be called, we cannot too forcibly condemn; and if the excuse for its allowance were as strong as it appears to us to be weak, we still could not but think the surgeon guilty of great neglect of duty in not carefully superintending the distribution of the spirits, and restricting their issue to such small quantities as would answer the purpose for which they were given.

* * * * * * * *

The next case, that of J—— C—— and C—— W——, is one in which, we regret to say, fraud is combined with neglect. These parties appear to have been received on board as man and wife, and according to the surgeon's statement, they slept together for some weeks, when they quarrelled, and declared that they were not married. They were then separated, and C—— W—— took her place among the single women. Certificates suitable to their single state were then fabricated on board under the direction of Mr.——, acting as attorney for the agents in London, and such signatures as are usually attached to these documents were inserted. These certificates were deposited in the office without comment, and J—— C—— and C—— W—— were passed by the board as single people of good character, without a remark from any of those persons present who were aware of the circumstances of the case, except that when C—— W—— was found to be without the requisite protection, the surgeon came forward and said that she had been under his special care. * * *

(signed) Francis L. S. Merewether.
Arthur Savage, R. N.
H. H. Browne, J. P.
W. H. Christie, J. P.
J. Long Innes, J. P.

The "Eleanor."

* * * * * * * *

* * * It will be sufficient for us to observe, that even though the plea advanced by Mr. —— in his letter to us should be admitted and the affreighters should be deemed released, by the approval of the Government agent in London, from all blame as to the faulty construction of the water-closets, the lumbered state of the decks during the early part of the voyage, the manner in which the immigrants were crowded in consequence of the large space set apart for intermediate passengers, and the most inadequate supply of medical comforts, are fully sufficient to warrant our conclusion that the progress of the disease was mainly attributable to a want of proper precaution and regard to the comfort of the immigrants, and that the affreighters should therefore be required to pay all the expenses of the quarantine.

We cannot conclude this report without expressing a hope that his Excellency will take steps for the absolute prohibition of the sale of wine and spirits on board emigrant ships. Whether or not it is the intention of Messrs. —— & ——, when they "put wine and spirits on board for sale," to draw an additional profit from the pockets of the poor emigrants, such, it appears from the evidence given in the present instance, will be the effect of the practice if suffered to exist. In all cases where these articles are required for the health of any individuals they should be issued without charge as medical comforts, and in no other cases, we are of opinion, should they be issued at all. As the best mode which occurs to us of putting a stop to this pernicious practice, we would suggest the issue of a public notice, that the gratuities of the surgeon-superintendent and officers will be disallowed in all cases where the sale of wine or spirits may be proved to have taken place.

* * * * * * * *

(signed) Francis L. S. Merewether.
Arthur Savage, R. N.
W. H. Christie, J. P.
J. Long Innes, J. P.
H. H. Browne, J. P.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The "Marchioness of Bute."

* * * * * * * * * * * * We enclose for his Excellency's perusal some certificates produced in favour of immigrants by this ship, in which alterations and additions have been made in the descriptions of the parties, and made, we have good reason to believe, in the office of the gentleman in Liverpool, employed by the importers to superintend the selection of their emigrants; we are not disposed to recommend the disallowance of bounties in any other cases than those above mentioned, but we think it our duty to submit these documents to his Excellency's inspection, as the alterations made appear to us to be of such a nature as to show that the main object of the persons by whom they were made is, not that the emigrants sent should be of the best description, according to the colonial order, but that they should present such an appearance as would secure to the importers the colonial bounties.

* * * * * * * *

(signed) Francis L. S. Merewether.
W. S. Christie, J. P.

The "Duke of Roxburgh."

* * * * * * * *

We regret to state, that of the single women above reported not to have been under proper protection, six were inmates of Newington workhouse before their embarkation, and some of this number, if not all, prostitutes.

The bad character of two of them is placed beyond a doubt by their conduct since their arrival, as reported to the immigration agent by the water police magistrate, in the communication annexed. (*a*) Their behaviour on board has also been reported by the surgeon to have been very disorderly. A third, H—— M'G——, known on board by the nickname of the "Duchess," we have also reason to think had been a common prostitute.

(signed) Francis L. S. Merewether.
Arthur Savage, R. N.
W. H. Christie, J. P.

(*a*) Extract from Communication referred to:

"M—— A—— F—— came out an immigrant by the ship 'Duke of Roxburgh;' was sent on board from the Newington workhouse, where she had been two months; saw R——, a waterman, on board on Saturday last, who asked her to come and live with him; she left the vessel and took her clothes with her; R—— took her to a public-house on the Rocks, and has been cohabiting with her ever since. States also that a girl of the name of J—— H—— is living in the same house with a man named G——, who took her from the same ship on Friday last.

"H—— was also in the Newington workhouse. I think there can be no doubt these girls have been prostitutes all their lives.

(signed) "H. H. B."

The "Mathesis.

* * * * * * * * * * * * It is our painful duty, therefore, to report that we are not "satisfied that the immigrants have been duly supplied with a sufficiency of wholesome provisions and water, and with reasonably comfortable accommodation;" and we must add, that a want of order, regularity, and decency appears to us to have existed in this ship, which is in the highest degree discreditable to all parties concerned. We cannot, therefore, recommend the payment of any portion of the bounties claimed.

We must further report our opinion, that the conduct of the surgeon and officers of this ship has been so disgraceful as to render it a matter of regret to us that we cannot be the means of visiting them with a heavier penalty than the loss of their gratuities.

* * * * * * * * * * * * We feel it unnecessary to bring prominently forward any other reprehensible points in the surgeon's conduct, but we must express our surprise that a person so ill-educated, and of so ill regulated a mind, as his letters to us show him to be, could have been appointed to so responsible a situation, or that he could even have been in possession of such testimonials as would admit of his application for such employment being entertained.

* * * * * * * *

(signed) Francis L. S. Merewether.
Arthur Savage, R. N.
J. Long Innes, J. P.
W. H. Christie, J. P.
H. H. Browne, J. P.

The "Agnes."

* * * * * * * * * * * * We cannot approve of any charge being made on emigrants for the passage either of themselves or their children, as we are inclined to think that many valuable people are thus deterred from emigrating, and their places are supplied by others of a less desirable description, but possessed of the requisite funds. *

We have on former instances had occasion to express our disapprobation of the sale of provisions, wine, spirits, &c. in immigrant ships. No case has, however, been brought under our notice so much requiring censure as this. Not only has the sale been carried on to a greater extent than we have before heard of, but the prices charged appear to us to have been most exorbitant. Of the correctness of our opinion on this point, his Excellency will be able to judge from two bills which we enclose. The one shows a bounty immigrant, named M——, to have been a purchaser of provisions to the amount of 7*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.*; of spirits to the amount of 4*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*; of wine to the amount of 13*s.* 7½*d.*; and of cigars to the amount of 10*s.* 6*d.*; making a total sum expended of 13*l.* 4*s.* 9½*d.* (*a*) In this instance we think that the nature of the articles bought shows M—— to be a valueless "Farm Servant," and we have therefore recommended the disallowance of the bounty claimed on his account. *See* Evidence, Innes, Q. 24.

The other account, that of T—— P——, does not exhibit the same extravagance on the part of the immigrant, or any just ground for suspecting his ineligibility. We have not therefore recommended the disallowance of bounty on his account. But though more favourable as regards the purchaser, this case presents a feature very discreditable, we think, to the chief officer, at whose hands he purchased. It appears, that when this man's money was exhausted, and exhausted in procuring articles distinctly stated by the surgeon and master to be unnecessary, he was allowed further to purchase unnecessaries on his giving his watch as security for payment on his arrival in Sydney. The watch is still in the hands of the chief mate unredeemed, in consequence of a dispute about an item in the bill. *

* * * * Though fully satisfied with their conduct in other respects, we feel it our duty to recommend that the surgeon should receive five per cent., and the master and chief officer one third less than the sums to which they would otherwise have been respectively entitled, in consequence of the above stated circumstances connected with the sale of provisions. *

(signed) FRANCIS L. S. MEREWETHER. J. LONG INNES, J.P.
ARTHUR SAVAGE, R.N. H. H. BROWNE, J.P.

(*a*) MR. M——'s ACCOUNT.

1841:		£	s.	d.
Dec. 4	A cheese	1	1	4½
— 6	One stone flour	0	7	0
— 6	Seven pounds oatmeal	0	2	3
— 6	An empty barrel	0	2	6
— 11	Ten pounds flour	0	5	0
— 11	Two pounds sugar	0	2	4
— 11	Two & a quarter pounds molasses	0	2	3
— 11	One quart rum	0	4	0
— 13	Ditto - ditto	0	4	0
— 18	Two pounds sugar	0	2	4
— 18	Half-gallon rum	0	8	0
— 18	A gill wine	0	1	7½
— 21	Two pounds raisins	0	2	0
— 21	Two pounds sugar	0	2	4
— 21	One quart rum	0	4	0
— 21	One pint ditto	0	2	0
— 21	A duck	0	6	0
— 21	One stone flour	0	7	0
— 21	Two pounds molasses	0	2	0
— 26	A bottle port wine	0	6	0
— 28	Half-gallon rum	0	8	0
1842:				
Jan. 2	A bottle port wine	0	6	0
— 3	Thirteen pounds ham	1	9	3
— 3	Half-stone meal	0	2	3
— 3	One quart rum	0	4	0
— 4	One dozen segars	0	3	6
— 7	Half-gallon rum	0	8	0
— 7	One dozen cigars	0	3	6
— 7	Two pounds sugar	0	2	4
— 8	A bottle porter	0	1	3
— 8	One stone flour	0	7	0
— 8	Two pounds molasses	0	2	0
	Carried forward - £	8	11	1

1842:		£	s.	d.
	Am^t brought forward	8	11	1
Jan. 10	A bottle porter	0	1	3
— 10	Brandy	0	6	0
— 12	Three pounds flour	0	1	6
— 12	Two pounds sugar	0	2	4
— 12	One pound fruit	0	1	0
— 13	One dozen cigars	0	3	6
— 16	Three pints rum	0	6	0
— 16	Porter	0	2	6
— 18	Two pounds molasses	0	2	0
— 21	Three pints rum	0	6	0
— 21	Porter	0	1	3
— 21	Soap	0	1	6
— 21	Two pounds sugar	0	2	4
— 23	Half-stone flour	0	3	6
— 23	Rum	0	4	6
— 26	Rum	0	8	0
— 27	Half-stone flour	0	3	6
— 27	One quart rum	0	4	0
— 27	Half-pound soap	0	0	9
— 29	Half-stone flour	0	3	6
— 29	One pound raisins	0	1	0
— 29	One pint brandy	0	4	0
— 29	Cheese	0	5	7½
— 29	Molasses	0	2	0
Feb. 3	One pint rum	0	2	0
— 3	Half-stone flour	0	3	6
— 3	Rum	0	2	0
— 3	Sugar	0	1	2
— 3	Half-stone flour	0	3	6
— 3	One quart rum	0	4	0
	£	13	4	9½

Received the above,
J—— C——.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The "New York Packet."

On the entry of the vessel into the port the surgeon superintendent and master were questioned in the usual manner, by the health officer, as to the nature and extent of sickness which had occurred on the passage, or which at the time existed. The answer given to the health officer's inquiries was, that the small-pox had been prevalent during the early part of the voyage, but had for some time disappeared, and that, with the exception of a few cases of influenza, the passengers were totally free from disease.

We must now state our decided opinion, that the disease which existed amongst the emigrants on their disembarkation, which the surgeon superintendent admits terminated in typhus, was stamped with the character of typhus when the vessel entered the harbour.

That this contagious fever was typhus is positively asserted by some of the most respectable immigrants; and the opinion entertained by these individuals appears to have been prevalent amongst the passengers generally.

Their opinion, in opposition to that of the surgeon superintendent, is supported by the statement of Dr. ——, R.N., who asserts, that "about twenty cases sent by him to the hospital, on the fourth day after the arrival of the vessel, which the surgeon superintendent was unwilling to admit as typhus, were decidedly cases of typhus, and that they had existed prior to the two days which had elapsed since the disembarkation of the immigrants." Dr. ——, who, two days afterwards, took charge of the "Lazaretto," states that even then the surgeon superintendent would not admit that any of the fever cases in the hospital were other than cases of influenza. He says, "the cases were all most decided cases of typhus fever, with the exception of one child that had hooping cough; when I went down first, Mr. ——, on going round the cases with me, did not seem to think that any of them were typhus; I told him I had not the least doubt on my mind, and that it was ridiculous to call them any thing else. There were some cases which I should think were at least of a fortnight's standing."

His Excellency will observe, on perusal of the statement made before our Board by the surgeon superintendent, that during the continuance of the small-pox three patients only were removed from the berths which they at the time occupied; the remaining eleven were allowed to continue, and one of them, as it would seem, even to die in the midst of their fellow passengers.

The second hospital he allowed to be filled with ship's stores, and so to continue useless and unused through the passage, notwithstanding that he had hospital patients of both sexes under his treatment at the same time.

We have dwelt at some length on the points in which the incapacity of Mr. —— appears to have been exhibited; but we have felt ourselves called upon to endeavour to fix his Excellency's attention upon the danger to which the lives of so many poor people, conveyed to this country under his Excellency's permission, have been exposed, by the want of efficient superintendence; our duty is a painful one, and the more so from the fact of Mr. ——'s incompetence being unaccompanied with misconduct; we believe him to be weak and irresolute as a man; and most deficient in practical acquaintance with his profession as a surgeon, but his moral conduct during the passage is unimpeached; we should have been therefore rather disposed to limit ourselves to a brief expression of our unfavourable opinion, had this been an isolated case, and had our attention not been called in other instances, to a most culpable want of care in the selection of surgeons superintendent. In more than one instance have we been dissatisfied with the selections made by the importers of these immigrants, as well as by other parties engaged in the trade; and a similar dissatisfaction with surgeons appointed to the charge of immigrants landed at Melbourne, has been expressed by the superintendent of Port Phillip. In a letter dated the 19th February 1842, his Honour says, "his Excellency will perceive that I have considered that more blame is to be attributed to the importers in not securing the services of a more competent and experienced person, than to the surgeon himself;" and requests "that his Excellency would mark his sense of the impropriety of the course now frequently adopted, in sending out a large number of souls under charge of incompetent and inexperienced men, by subtracting the whole or part of the surgeon's gratuity, from the sum claimed by the importers;" and in a letter dated 2d March 1842 he says, with reference to another case, "considering as I do, that in many instances far too little care is taken by the importers in securing the services of men of real character and experience, to bring out and take charge of such large bodies of emigrants, it appears to me, that in this and in every other instance where such (quarantine) expenses are the consequence of bad management or bad arrangements, that they should be deducted from the amount of bounty.

The opinion expressed by his Honour in the foregoing extracts, coincides exactly with that formed by us on review of this and similar cases, viz., that the penalties arising out of a surgeon's incompetency for his situation, should fall not so much upon himself as on his employer, whose duty it is to ascertain, beyond the possibility of doubt, the qualifications of the person to whom he intrusts so important a charge.

We

We will now conclude this division of our Report by stating our opinion, that in the most important provision for the health, comfort, and convenience of the passengers, and that on which the efficacy of every other provision depends, namely, the selection of a surgeon superintendent, the affreighter has shown a carelessness which we cannot too strongly reprobate. And as to the uncleanly state of the vessel and emigrants, to the want of classification, and proper treatment of the sick, to the non-separation of the sick from the healthy, or, in other words, to the inexperience and incapacity of the surgeon, we attribute mainly the origin and progress of the disease which caused the establishment of the quarantine, we are of opinion that on this ground alone the importer should not be relieved from any portion of the expense with which the quarantine was attended. * *

It appears that the immigrants were allowed to bring on board blankets, &c. which had been in use for an indefinite period, and that the articles so introduced into the ship were not inspected by the affreighter or his agents. It also appears that the emigrants were not required to provide themselves, before embarkation, with a suitable supply of clothing for so long a voyage. In one instance, the surgeon states that he was obliged to give a man his own sheets. We cannot but attach great blame to the affreighter for his negligence in these particulars; and we consider that the fever, which seems to have existed more or less throughout the passage, may have been generated by filth in the bedding and clothing of many of the passengers, whose habits seem to have been most uncleanly.

* * * * * * * * *

(signed) *Francis L. S. Merewether.* *J. Long Innes*, J. P.
Arthur Savage, R. N. *H. H. Browne*, J. P.
P. Harnett, Colonial Surgeon. *W. H. Christie*, J. P.

The "Wilson."

* * * * * * * * *

The bounties claimed on R—— M'L—— and wife we have disallowed for the same reason. M'L——stated, when examined by us, that he was and had been all his life a miller; and that he had told M'L—— of Derry, the sub-agent employed by the importer to select emigrants for him in that neighbourhood, that such was his calling. The claim for bounty advanced in this case we cannot therefore consider in any other light than as an attempt at imposition on the Government; more especially as on the certificate produced in this man's favour, the word originally inserted in the column showing his trade is partially erased, and wheelwright written in its place. The original word appears to have been "miller." M'L—— seems, too, to us to be at least ten years older than is stated in his certificate.

* * * * And we have deducted the amount of bounties on three single men, namely, R—— C——, W—— G——, and B—— N——, in accordance with a minute of his Excellency, on a communication from the Water Police Magistrate to the Immigration Agent, from which it would seem that they embarked as bounty emigrants to Sydney, merely with a view of obtaining a cheap passage to New Zealand, their place of destination. * * * * * *

(signed) *Francis L. S. Merewether.*
H. H. Browne, J. P.
W. H. Christie, J. P.

The "Duke of Roxburgh."

Sir, Immigration Office, Sydney, 11th February 1842.

With reference to the Report of the Immigration Board, of the 8th instant, on the immigrants per "Duke of Roxburgh," I do myself the honour to enclose a memorandum* from the Water Police Magistrate, from which it would appear that bounties have been improperly paid on a family named ——, per "Comet;" and I beg to call your attention to the minute of his Excellency the Governor, enclosed, directing that the amount paid should be deducted from the bounties of the "Duke of Roxburgh."

The amount paid on account of —— —— and family, was sixty-eight pounds. I enclose the certificate produced in favour of this family.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, (signed) *Francis L. S. Merewether.*
&c. &c. &c.

* Memorandum referred to:—

—— came out as an immigrant per "Comet;" has been a painter, plumber, and paperhanger all his life; the agent at —— knew him as such, and told him to put himself down as a carpenter, as painters would not pass; after arrival here was told by the doctor that he was to say he was a carpenter, which he did; heard the doctor tell several other persons what they were to say when mustered by the Commissioners; has been working as a painter since arrival here; states that his wife was never in service.

(signed) *H. H. Browne.*

Minute of his Excellency the Governor on the foregoing:—

Let the bounties which have been paid on this man and his family be deducted from any that may be coming to the same parties.

The "Duke of Roxburgh," I believe belongs to them.

(signed) *G. G.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The "Thetis."

* * * * * * * * *

In perusing the form of agreement transmitted by Messrs. —— and ——, we cannot fail to be forcibly struck by the following article: "that he (the surgeon) will aid and assist the said agents (the agents of Messrs. —— and ——), in passing the emigrants carried out under the colonial bounty, before the Board of Inspection at Port Phillip, so as to procure payment of the said bounty;" and its intention is more prominently brought forward by the article which precedes it—"that he will furnish to the agents of the said —— and ——, at Port Philip, all the information which he may be able to obtain with reference to each family or person on board." In these articles we discover the cause of the want of candour which we have frequently observed in the surgeons of emigrant ships, when questioned as to the character or eligibility of the people under their charge.

From these articles it would appear, that the surgeon is bound by the bounty agent faithfully to report to his agents, on the arrival of the immigrants, all that he knows respecting them individually, and that he is as faithfully to conceal their defects from the Government; or in other words, he is bound to sacrifice the interest of the public here, by whom he is paid, to the interest of his nominators, by whom he is not paid; for we observe that the only remuneration guaranteed to Mr. —— in this case, was a free passage with cabin fare, in which we believe, wine, spirits, and ale were not included, but were to be paid for as used; whilst the duties imposed upon him comprised those of purser (*a*) and surgeon to the ship's company and cabin passengers, as well as those of surgeon superintendent of the emigrants; for his services in this latter capacity he was to receive but a promise from Messrs. —— and ——, that if he served them satisfactorily, they would assist him in obtaining from the Colonial Government the usual gratuities; which gratuities would be paid as a matter of course, if the conduct of the surgeon were satisfactory to the Government, as well as to Messrs. —— and ——; but which, if otherwise, no representations or exertions on the part of these gentlemen could extort.

A careful consideration of this transaction confirms us in the opinion which we had previously formed, that the establishment of the gratuities in favour of the surgeons superintendent of immigrant ships has no other effect than to relieve the importers from the necessity of paying the small salary which they used before to allow to their surgeons, and that too, when the rate of bounties was lower, and the receipts consequently less than at present. The gratuities have thus been turned into a source of profit and patronage to the parties engaged in the emigrant trade; and the object of their institution, as might be expected, has been entirely defeated.

We need not pass in review here the instances in which, during the past season, the incapacity of surgeons of immigrant ships has been brought under our censure, and under the censure of his honour the Superintendent of Port Phillip; but we gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity of suggesting, that no surgeon should in future be allowed to proceed in charge of an immigrant ship, until he has been approved of by the medical officers attached to the Board of Admiralty, or some other equally disinterested and competent examiners. * * * * * * * * *

(signed) *Francis L. S. Merewether.* *J. Long Innes*, J. P.
Arthur Savage, R. N. *H. H. Browne*, J. P.

The "Carthaginian."

* * * There is one instance, however, of outrageous conduct on the part of the master, which we think it our duty specially to notice. It appears that during the early part of the voyage many of the immigrants had been in the habit of keeping log-books, or records of the little occurrences which took place in the ship. This we should have considered a very harmless amusement, and one which we should have thought it politic to encourage. To the master, however, the practice seems to have given offence, or to have been a source of apprehension, and he issued an order that no log-books should, for the future, be kept, and that those in existence should be destroyed. This order appears not to have been very readily obeyed, and by way of obtaining more prompt compliance with his desire than the immigrants were disposed to give, the master ordered the man at the helm from his post, and let the ship go adrift * * * * As it happened, fortunately we may say, for we should have expected consequences far more serious, one woman only, who appears to have lost the use of her senses for some time from fright, suffered materially from this extraordinary conduct on the part of the master. * * * * In the present case we regret to find, that the parties in England, acting for the importers, exacted from the surgeon a promise to pay a certain sum as passage-money on the receipt of his gratuities here; and we have reason to believe that subserviency to the master was made another condition of his appointment. We cannot therefore be surprised that the cheap surgeon—the surgeon who would bind himself to submit to one, who by profession and by education ought to have been his inferior, should have

(*a*) "That he will see to the expenditure books being regularly and correctly kep."

have ill discharged the duties of the situation in which, through a false economy, he was placed.

* * * We are happy, however, to state, that Messrs. —— and —— have, in this as in every other instance of improper behaviour, repudiated the acts of their agents in England, and have release.. the surgeon from his engagement. (*a*) * * *

* * * * * * * * * * * *

(signed) *Francis L. S. Merewether.* *Arthur Savage*, R. N.
J. Long Innes, J. P. *H. H. Browne*, J. P.
W. H. Christie, J. P.

Sir, Immigration Office, Sydney, 25th April 1842.

With reference to the statement made in the Immigration Board's Report B. of the 23d instant, on the "Carthaginian" case, that Elizabeth Smith had declared herself before the Supreme Court to be a married woman, and not single, as represented in her certificate, I do myself the honour to annex a copy of a note addressed to me by Mr. Justice Stephen, from which it appears that she distinctly told the bounty agent that she was married, and that the false representation made originated with the bounty agent, and not with her.

The certificate produced in favour of Elizabeth Smith I beg to enclose for his Excellency's inspection.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Francis L. S. Merewether.*

(COPY.)

My dear Sir, 25th April 1842.

I perfectly recollect that the girl Betsy Smith, at the late "Carthaginian" trial, swore that she told the emigration agents at Liverpool (or ship's agents) that she was a married woman, but that "they" told her (or "the clerk" told her, as I understood,) that it did not signify; it "made no difference;" and she was then entered as single.

I have the substance of this on my notes; and you will see the fact of her swearing to having "told them in the office in Liverpool that she was married" reported also in the newspapers.

Francis L. S. Merewether, Esq.

Yours, &c.
(signed) *Alfred Stephen.*

The "Sir Charles Napier."

* * * * * * *

Of the certificates produced in favour of the individual immigrants, many appear to us to have no reference whatever to parties included in them, whose names would seem to have been inserted subsequently to the approval of the documents by the authorities in England. * * * * * * *

The unsatisfactory nature of the certificates, a general complaint of the disorderly character of the immigrants preferred by the surgeon, and other information of a discreditable nature to the conduct of the ship, rendered a formal inquiry into these general points necessary before we could report on the claim to bounties. We accordingly obtained the attendance upon our Board of the surgeon superintendent, and in the presence of the importer's agents questioned him as to what he knew of the correctness of these certificates, and of the character and calling of the parties to whom they applied. The surgeon readily afforded every information required; but at the same time, whilst he made known to us the existence of gross irregularities, he gave us to understand that he should prefer the evidence of other parties being taken with regard to their nature, when he, being present, would answer any questions arising out of the statements made by these witnesses, or would substantiate them by his own testimony, if requisite. We accordingly examined, out of the immigrants whose attendance was procured, a sufficient number of the most respectable and the best informed, to prove to us, beyond all doubt, that in the shipment of the immigrants the grossest frauds had been practised; that most improper people had been wilfully put on board; and that immorality had prevailed to a disgraceful extent during the passage. * * * * * *

* * * * At the same time we think it right to state, that if we considered ourselves authorised so to do, we should, under the aggravated circumstances of this case, recommend a total disallowance of the amount claimed. * * *

* * * * We should be glad, could the sum shown to have been paid by the surgeon superintendent for his passage, be reserved for his benefit from the amount allowed as bounties. * * * * * *

(signed) *Francis L. S. Merewether.* *W. H. Christie*, J. P.
Arthur Savage, R. N. *J. Long Innes*, J. P.
H. H. Browne, J. P.

(Extract from a Minute of his Excellency the Governor on the foregoing.)

Let Messrs. —— and —— be informed, that I regret it is out of my power to sanction the payment of any bounties on the immigrants by this ship.

(signed) *G. G.*

(*a*) For further Extracts from Report of the Immigrants by this ship, *see* Evidence, Merewether, Q. 44. p. 90, and Innes, Q. 31. p. 96.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

(F.)

RETURN showing the NUMBER of FAMILIES, SINGLE MALES, and SINGLE FEMALES, who arrived at SYDNEY, on BOUNTY, during the Year ending 30th June 1842; with the Number received into BARRACKS at the expiration of the time allowed for their stay on board Ship, and the Number remaining in Barracks on the last day of each Month.

MONTHS.	Number arrived* at Sydney.			Number received into Barracks.			Number remaining in Barracks on the last day of each Month.		
	Families.	Males.	Females.	Families.	Males.	Females.	Families.	Males.	Females.
July	156	152	159	—					
August	384	421	480	—					
September	238	297	279	40		87	25		54
October	270	211	231	1			9	—	
November	244	237	290	63		16	43		9
December	191	205	261	96		69	31		15
January	425	457	436	178		47	128		17
February	229	235	257	211		121	212		84
March	79	90	94	53		27	100		12
April				13		18	54		6
May							†18	—	
June							†13	—	
TOTALS	2,216	2,305	2,487	655		385			

* In order to render this Return uniform with the others, the number of immigrants on whom bounties were claimed, but not paid, are not included under the first head; a very considerable number of these immigrants were, however, received into the barracks, and are included under the second and third heads.

† The cause of these families remaining in Barracks is illness.

Immigration Office, Sydney, 22d August 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MERREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

(F. a.)

MAXIMUM NUMBERS of IMMIGRANTS at the Charge of or Employed by Government for each Month, since July 1841.

MONTHS.	AT THE CHARGE OF GOVERNMENT.		Males in Government Employ.	REMARKS.
	Males.	Females.		
1841:				
July	72	25	—	This Return is applicable to Melbourne only, as the others could scarcely be correctly ascertained.
August		38	—	
September	138	50	—	
October		83	—	
November	52	43	—	
December	202	141	—	
1842:				
January	299	160	196	
February	162	125	232	
March	60	181	213	
April	50	185	250	
May		185	219	
June		120	216	
July		107	201	

RETURN of IMMIGRANTS at the Charge of or in the Employ of Government, 31st July 1842.

WHERE.	MALES.		REMARKS.
	Number.	Description.	
Melbourne - - -	173	Married men	In Government employ.
Road to the Falls - -	10	ditto -	ditto.
Road to the Heidelberg - -	10	ditto -	ditto.
Road to Sydney - - -	14	ditto -	ditto.
Williams Town - - -	12	ditto -	ditto.
Geelong - - - -	17	ditto -	ditto.
Portland - - -	7	ditto -	ditto.
TOTAL - -	243		
	FEMALES.		
Melbourne - - -	56	Single women or destitute children in asylum.	
Geelong - - -	12	Women at government charge.	
Portland - - - -	6	ditto - ditto.	
TOTAL - -	74		

RETURN of the NUMBER of IMMIGRANTS forwarded to Geelong, up to 1st August 1842.

VESSEL CONVEYING.	DATE OF SAILING.	FAMILIES.			Single Men.	Single Women.	TOTALS.	REMARKS.
		Male.	Female.	Children.				
"Ranger" revenue cutter.	6th Feb. 1842 -	17	16	21	–	–	54	
Ditto - ditto -	22d March 1842	14	14	16	2	9	55	
Ditto - ditto -	2d May 1832 -	6	6	6	6	2	26	
	TOTALS -	37	36	43	8	11	135	

RETURN of the NUMBER of IMMIGRANTS forwarded to Portland, up to 1st August 1842.

"Ellen and Elizabeth"	19th October 1841	20	20	26	–	10	76	
Ditto - ditto -	8th Nov. 1841 -	15	15	34	2	17	83	
Ditto - ditto -	2d June 1842 -	–	–	–	–	17	17	
	TOTALS -	35	35	60	2	44	176	

(G.)

RETURN of the TRADES or CALLINGS to which the BOUNTY IMMIGRANTS who arrived between the 1st of July 1841 and 30th of June 1842 professed to belong; showing the Number of each Calling, and the Average Rate of Wages given.

TRADES or CALLINGS.	SYDNEY. Time of Arrival. Between July and December 1841.	SYDNEY. Time of Arrival. Between January and June 1842.	SYDNEY. Total Souls.	PORT PHILLIP. Time of Arrival. Between July and December 1841.	PORT PHILLIP. Time of Arrival. Between January and June 1842.	PORT PHILLIP. Total Souls.	GRAND TOTAL.	Average Wages per Annum, with Food and Lodging, in the Country Districts. £ s. d.	Wages of Mechanics per Week at the present Date, in Sydney, without Food and Lodging. £ s. d.
MALES:									
Agricultural labourers	2,134	956	3,090	1,617	426	2,043	5,133	20 10 0	—
Blacksmiths	152	90	242	79	22	101	343	—	2 8 0
*Boot and shoemakers	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	44 0 0	—
Brickmakers	8	10	18	—	2	2	20	1 per thousand.	—
Bricklayers	56	46	102	36	5	41	143	—	2 8 0
*Butchers	2	6	8	—	2	2	10	36 0 0	—
*Bakers	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	42 0 0	—
Carters	1	—	1	1	—	1	2	28 0 0	—
Carpenters	322	221	543	176	84	260	803	—	2 5 0
*Cabinetmakers	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	52 0 0	—
*Coachmen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25 0 0	—
*Coopers	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	47 10 0	—
*Domestic Servants	11	—	11	—	—	—	11	25 0 0	—
*Grooms	16	—	16	4	—	4	20	26 0 0	—
Gardeners	57	24	81	27	1	28	109	30 0 0	—
*Millwrights	1	1	2	—	1	1	3	—	2 5 0
Plasterers	—	2	2	—	1	1	3	—	2 8 0
Quarrymen	2	—	2	1	—	1	3	—	2 2 0
Shepherds	113	53	166	117	28	145	311	22 0 0	—
Stonemasons	59	41	100	36	13	49	149	—	2 8 0
Sawyers	20	8	28	6	8	14	42	—	3 0 0
*Tailors	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34 0 0	—
Wheelwrights	17	20	37	12	8	20	57	—	2 5 0
Whitesmiths	9	8	17	1	1	2	19	—	1 15 0
Miscellaneous	12	19	31	1	3	4	35	—	—
TOTALS	2,997	1,505	4,502	2,115	605	2,720	7,222		
FEMALES:									
Cooks	29	8	37	19	5	24	61	16 0 0	
*Dressmakers	7	—	7	—	—	—	7	12 10 0	
Dairymaids	156	53	209	51	14	65	274	14 0 0	
Farm servants	265	100	365	37	32	69	434	10 0 0	
General house servants	561	400	961	478	236	714	1,675	14 0 0	
Housemaids	345	113	458	620	39	659	1,117	14 0 0	
Housekeepers	6	1	7	30	14	44	51	14 0 0	
Kitchen-maids	46	6	52	1	—	1	53	14 0 0	
Ladies maids	13	1	14	—	—	—	14	10 10 0	
Laundresses	34	10	44	9	3	12	56	15 0 0	
Needlewomen	15	2	17	—	—	—	17	14 0 0	
*Nursery governesses	5	—	5	—	—	—	5	10 10 0	
Nursemaids	217	85	302	54	7	61	363	12 0 0	
Miscellaneous	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
TOTALS	1,700	779	2,479	1,299	350	1,649	4,128		

* Persons of these descriptions are not eligible for free passages under the existing bounty regulations.

Immigration Office, Sydney, 22d August 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MERREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

(H.)

NEW SOUTH WALES.

A RETURN of CROWN LANDS sold under the Regulations of 1st August 1831, &c. &c. between 1st July 1840 and 30th June 1842.

PERIOD.	Number of Acres advertised for Sale.				Not sold.				Sold to Officers, Soldiers, &c.		Gross Amount of Sales.		TOTAL.	
	At the Minimum Price of 5s. per Acre.	At any higher Rate, not including 12s. per Acre.	At the raised Minimum Price of 12s. per Acre.	Total Number of Acres advertised.	Withdrawn or Cancelled.	Put up and not Bid for.	On which Deposits have been Forfeited.	Amount of Deposits Forfeited.	Number of Acres.	Amount of Purchase.	Number of Acres.	Amount of Purchase Price.	Number of Acres sold.	Amount of Purchase Money Received.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.
1840: From 1st July to 31st December	22,389 0 0	5,424 3 20	74,114 0 0	101,927 3 20	6,423 0 0	47,236 0 0	5,239 0 0	251 4 11	5,454 0 0	1,498 11 6	44,208 3 20	33,097 19 6	45,089 3 20	28,296 16 11
1841: From 1st January to 30th June	- -	8,221 0 0	39,091 0 0	47,312 0 0	650 0 0	30,994 0 0	58 0 0	5 16 0	516 0 0	568 0 9	15,608 0 0	11,430 14 0	15,610 0 0	10,800 9 3
From 1st July to 31st December	- -	5,851 3 22	21,370 0 0	27,221 3 22	- -	22,939 3 31	640 0 0	32 8 0	30 0 0	24 15 0	4,281 3 31	3,162 7 5	3,641 3 31	2,792 0 5
1842: From 1st January to 30th June	- -	2,145 3 16	110,983 0 0	113,128 3 16	1,367 0 0	68,952 1 6	300 0 0	19 10 0	465 0 0	272 5 0	2,809 2 10	2,232 18 6	2,809 2 10	1,805 3 6
TOTALS - £	22,389 0 0	21,643 2 18	245,558 0 0	289,590 2 18	8,440 0 0	230,122 0 37	4,257 0 0	314 18 11	6,465 0 0	2,363 12 3	71,029 1 21	30,033 19 5	66,771 1 21	44,824 12 1

Colonial Treasury, Sydney, 22d June 1842.

C. D. RUSSELL.

(H. a.)

NEW SOUTH WALES.

A RETURN of TOWN ALLOTMENTS sold under the Regulations of 1st August 1831, between 1st July 1840 and 30th June 1842.

PERIOD.	Number of Acres Advertised for Sale.			Not sold.				Sold to Officers, Soldiers, &c.		Gross Amount of Sales.		TOTAL.	
	At £2 per Acre.	At any higher Rate.	Total Number of Acres Advertised.	Withdrawn or Cancelled.	Put up and not Bid for.	On which Deposits have been Forfeited.	Amount of Deposits Forfeited.	Number of Acres.	Remission allowed.	Number of Acres.	Amount.	Number of Acres sold.	Amount Received.
	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.
1840: From 1st July to 31st December - -	- -	249 1 23	249 1 23	23 1 28	19 0 32	15 1 31	60 7 1	25 1 25	304 15 2	397 1 19	7,785 1 6	191 1 12	6,137 19 1
1841: From 1st January to 30th June - -	- -	405 1 10	405 1 10	68 1 37	155 3 14	7 3 8	21 8 2	48 0 28	683 4 8	192 1 10	4,674 3 3	178 0 31	3,470 7 1
From 1st July to 31st December - -	- -	171 1 9½	171 1 9½	- -	104 2 15½	3 0 0	18 18 0	24 2 33	661 2 6	66 2 34½	2,449 3 11	65 2 34½	2,617 19 5
1842: From 1st January to 30th June - -	- -	164 0 28½	164 0 28½	3 2 0	111 1 18½	1 3 24	3 4 9	27 3 37	432 12 4	49 1 10½	3,575 5 10	47 1 26½	3,095 10 7
TOTAL - - £	- -	990 0 31 1/12	990 0 31 1/12	90 1 25	390 3 39½	28 0 23	103 18 0	124 1 3	2,301 14 8	515 2 33 1/12	19,483 14 6	480 2 23 7/12	15,320 16 2

Colonial Treasury, Sydney, 22d June 1842.

C. D. RUSSELL.

(H. b.)

ABSTRACT of the REVENUE arising from CROWN LANDS from the 1st of January to the 30th June 1842.

PERIOD.	Proceeds of Land Sold.	Quit Rents.	Redemption of Quit-Rents.	Leases of Town Allotments converted into Grants.	Rents of Land temporarily Leased.	TOTAL.
SYDNEY:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
January	1,288 12 2	484 13 3	79 2 6	- - -	39 4 9	1,891 12 8
February	593 10 10	1,014 3 10	252 13 4	- - -	- - -	1,860 8 0
March	979 6 11	2,171 12 3	181 11 8	- - -	211 8 6	3,543 19 4
April	1,129 18 0	932 17 3	161 3 6	- - -	42 19 5	2,266 18 2
May	1,925 12 0	630 2 0	157 6 2	- - -	160 0 8	2,873 0 10
June	248 10 10	1,544 7 6	139 18 13	- - -	112 18 8	2,045 15 10
£	6,165 10 9	6,777 16 1	971 16 0	- - -	566 12 0	14,481 14 10
PORT PHILLIP:						
January	1,360 0 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,360 0 0
February	—	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	5 0 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	5 0 0
May	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	10 0 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	10 0 0
	1,375 0 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,375 0 0
TOTALS	7,540 10 9	6,777 16 1	971 16 0	- - -	566 12 0	15,856 14 10

Audit Office, Sydney, New South Wales, 18th July 1842.

WM. LITHGOW, Auditor General.

(H. c.)

ABSTRACT of the REVENUE arising from CROWN LANDS from the 1st July to 31st December 1841, being a Continuation of a Return furnished to the Committee on Immigration, in July 1841.

PERIOD.	Proceeds of Land Sold.	Quit Rents.	Redemption of Quit-Rents.	Leases of Town Allotments converted into Grants.	Rents of Land temporarily Leased.	TOTAL.
SYDNEY:	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
July	2,955 3 1	359 19 0	37 16 8	- - -	32 13 5	3,385 12 2
August	577 19 10	884 6 1	68 10 0	97 2 6	103 10 11	1,681 9 4
September	2,090 11 2	664 5 5	14 0 10	2,237 11 3	597 7 1	5,603 15 9
October	104 1 1	253 4 7	69 3 4	15 4 6	97 1 10	538 15 4
November	727 5 4	354 1 0	267 0 0	11 16 3	161 2 3	1,521 5 10
December	633 19 3	479 9 9	234 8 4	159 1 6	174 7 5	1,681 6 3
£	7,089 0 9	2,945 5 10	690 19 2	2,520 16 0	1,166 2 11	14,412 4 8
PORT PHILLIP:						
July	912 0 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	912 0 0
August	1,714 5 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,714 5 0
September	6,794 9 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	6,794 9 0
October	1,607 2 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1,607 2 0
November	3,675 0 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3,675 0 0
December	2,113 12 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	2,113 12 0
£	16,815 19 0	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	16,815 19 0
TOTALS	23,904 19 9	2,945 5 10	690 19 2	2,520 16 0	1,166 2 11	31,228 3 8

Audit Office, Sydney, New South Wales, 18th July 1842.

WM. LITHGOW, Auditor General.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

(H. d. 1.)

ABSTRACT of the REVENUE arising from CROWN LANDS, from 1st July 1841 to 30th June 1842, with the probable Charges thereon during the same Period.

	Sydney.	Port Philip.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Proceeds of Land sold	13,254 11 6	18,190 19 0	31,445 10 6
Leases of Town Allotments converted into Grants	2,520 16 0	- - -	2,520 16 0
Quit-rents paid or redeemed	11,385 17 1	- - -	11,385 17 1
Rents of Land temporarily leased	1,732 14 11	- - -	1,732 14 11
GROSS REVENUE £	28,893 19 6	18,190 19 0	47,084 18 6
CHARGES AS ESTIMATED:			
Surveyor-General's Department	18,150 0 0	8,100 0 0	26,250 0 0
Aborigines	710 0 0	8,000 0 0	8,710 0 0
One Third of Treasury and Audit Office	2,070 0 0	390 0 0	2,460 0 0
TOTAL CHARGES £	20,930 0 0	16,490 0 0	37,420 0 0
Applicable to Immigration £	7,963 19 6	1,700 19 0	9,664 18 6

Audit Office, Sydney, New South Wales, 18th July 1842.

WM. LITHGOW, Auditor-General.

(H. d. 2.)

RETURN of the REVENUE arising from the Sale of CROWN LANDS, and of the Amount paid for Immigration, and for other Services chargeable thereon, for the Period from 1st January 1832 to 30th June 1842; specifying also the Number of Immigrants brought out at the Public Expense during the same Period.

Year.	Proceeds of the Sale of Land, including Town and Suburban Allotments.	Number of Immigrants brought to the Colony at the Public Expense.				Charges on the Fund arising from the Sale of Crown Lands.				
		Adults.		Children.	Total Number of Immigrants.	Immigration, including Quarantine.	Department of Survey.	One Third of the Expense of the Treasury and Audit Office.	Aborigines, including One Half of the Expense of the Border Police.	Total Charges.
		Male.	Female.							
	£ s. d.					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1832	12,509 13 10	137	441	204	782	5,293 4 11½	11,755 9 0½	1,451 1 8	1,198 2 2¾	19,697 17 10¼
1833	24,956 1 1	180	507	344	1,031	10,739 8 8½	12,562 4 2¾	1,340 9 7	773 19 9	25,436 2 3
1834	41,844 9 1	30	519	93	642	7,902 4 5¼	12,400 0 9½	1,474 5 8	942 0 9	22,718 11 7¼
1835	80,784 14 6	52	524	122	699	11,437 14 10½	11,218 16 10	1,591 12 3	1,325 17 9½	25,574 1 9
1836	126,458 16 0	69	564	116	749	11,894 11 11½	14,003 7 10½	1,768 16 0	1,416 8 7½	29,083 4 5½
1837	120,187 12 5	664	811	885	2,360	55,070 6 9½	17,330 2 9½	1,659 4 11½	2,884 11 11¾	80,964 6 8¾
1838	110,324 18 11	1,692	1,675	2,750	6,115	147,613 12 11	20,096 1 8	1,770 11 5	4,786 1 7	174,266 7 7
1839	152,982 16 4	2,862	2,779	2,998	8,339	155,576 15 1½	19,112 4 0¾	2,140 14 8	10,712 18 11	187,542 12 9
1840	316,696 7 5	2,548	2,781	1,366	6,675	111,694 3 8½	22,197 9 9½	2,465 9 7	14,626 4 10¾	150,983 7 11½
1841	90,587 16 10	7,154	7,699	4,180	18,996	329,226 16 10¾	27,407 17 2	2,470 14 6	18,950 11 7¾	371,056 0 2⅝
1842	7,340 10 9	2,068	2,180	1,106	5,354	107,772 17 0	10,985 18 9	1,195 4 9	5,540 8 10	125,494 4 4
Totals	1,090,583 17 2	17,421	20,451	13,864	51,736	951,241 17 4½	179,089 12 10¾	19,328 5 0½	63,097 2 0	1,212,756 17 3½

REMARKS.

The charges for immigration include the sum of 10,840*l.* paid as outfits and for passages to 60 clergymen and 26 teachers, who are not included in the number of other immigrants.

The total number of 51,736 is exclusive of the immigrants for whom bounties were refused.

Of the total charges, the sum of 48,760*l.* was paid for in land and immigration debentures, the redemption of which is still to be provided for.

The charges for immigration and survey alone exceed the total proceeds of the land fund during the period specified, by 39,747*l.* 13*s.* 1½*d.*

The payments by the Colonial Agent-general, from 1st January to 30th June 1842, have not been notified.

Audit Office, Sydney, New South Wales, 7th September 1842.

WILLIAM LITHGOW, Auditor General.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

(I.)

At a Meeting of the Immigration Committee, held on Thursday, 11th August 1842, it was moved that the following Resolution be adopted:

"That in the opinion of this Committee, the raising the minimum price of every description of land in this colony above 5*s.* an acre is impolitic, inasmuch as it has a direct tendency to divert the emigration of British capitalists from this colony to the United States of America, where fertile lands may be purchased at one dollar and a quarter per acre, which price has apparently been found by the American government to be sufficient on the one hand to check the too rapid conversion of the labourer into a landowner, and on the other hand not so high as to oppose a bar to that investment of capital in the purchase of land which is essential to the progress of colonization."

Passed in the affirmative.

(K.)

Copy of a Circular Letter addressed by the Colonial Secretary to the Holders of Conditional Bounty Orders.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney,
11th September 1841.

Sir,

I am directed by his Excellency the Governor to inform you, that it appears desirable to draw the attention of parties who have received conditional permissions to import persons on bounty to the very rapid immigration now taking place into the colony; and to point out to them that it is very probable the Government may not be in a situation to pay bounties in cases where they have been promised conditionally only; and that, at any rate, none such can be paid until after all demands to which the Government is liable on account of promises made unconditionally are satisfied.

I have, &c.
(signed) E. Deas Thomson.

(K. a.)

A Return showing the Number of Permissions to import Immigrants on Bounty, granted in the several Quarters of Years between that which ended the 31st December 1837 and the Quarter ended the 30th June 1840, which Permissions respectively expired in the several Quarters between that which ended on the 31st December 1839 and the 30th June 1842; showing also what Proportion of those Permissions was acted on, and the Proportion not acted on.

Quarters during the course of which the Permissions were granted.	Quarters during which the Permissions expired.	FAMILIES.			SINGLE MALES.			SINGLE FEMALES.		
		Extent of Permissions.	Number imported.	Number not imported.	Extent of Permissions.	Number imported.	Number not imported.	Extent of Permissions.	Number imported.	Number not imported.
Quarter ending	Quarter ending									
31 Dec. 1837	31 Dec. 1839	898	471	417	358	264	94	358	306	52
31 Mar. 1838	31 Mar. 1840	598	165	433	264	94	170	264	24	170
30 June 1838	30 June 1840	670	341	329	168	90	78	168	104	64
30 Sept. 1838	30 Sept. 1840	33	11	22	171	2	169	171	2	169
31 Dec. 1838	31 Dec. 1840	1,466	70	1,396	325	59	266	341	66	275
		3,655	1,058	2,597	1,286	509	777	1,302	572	730
Quarter ending	Quarter ending									
31 Mar. 1839	31 Mar. 1841	830	742	88	110	110	–	110	110	–
30 June 1839	30 June 1841	658	388	270	–	–	–	–	–	–
30 Sept. 1839	30 Sept. 1841	1,260	753	507	350	350	–	350	350	–
31 Dec. 1839	31 Dec. 1842	531	349	182	10	10	–	11	11	–
31 Mar. 1840	31 Mar. 1842	4,185	3,061	1,124	1,000	1,000	–	1,000	1,000	–
30 June 1840	30 June 1842	2,903	33	2,870	528	32	496	423	31	392
	Total - -	14,022	6,384	7,638	3,284	2,011	1,273	3,196	2,074	1,122

Immigration Office, Sydney,
22d August 1842.

Francis L. S. Merewether,
Agent for Immigration.

(L.)

NEW SOUTH WALES.

(No. 64.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Governor Sir GEORGE GIPPS, respecting Emigration on Bounty Orders.

Sir, Downing-street, 8th February 1842.

I HAVE received your despatch, No. 137, of the 17th July last, containing a report of the amount of revenue actually received into the treasury of the colony in the half year ending the 30th of the preceding month.

On the receipt of that despatch, I called on the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for an estimate, as far as might be practicable, of the state of the land revenue of the colony for the year 1841, and of the probable balance which would remain applicable to emigration in the succeeding year, without having recourse to unusual measures.

I enclose for your information a copy of the report which I have received from the Commissioners upon that point. 12 January 1842.

On a full consideration of all the circumstances, I consider it necessary to suspend for the present further emigration on bounty orders. However desirable it may be to keep up a continued supply of emigrants to New South Wales, I cannot consent to anticipate its land revenues for that purpose; and looking to the very large addition which will have been made to its population in the course of the past and the commencement of the present year, I am strongly inclined to believe that the supply of labour furnished will have been at least equal to the demand, or at all events, to such a demand as would realize the fair expectations of the emigrants.

I am, &c.

Governor Sir George Gipps, &c. &c. &c. (signed) STANLEY.

(M.)

(No. 42–955.)

COPY of a LETTER from C. J. La TROBE Esq. to the Clerk of the Councils at Sydney, relative to the demand of the Colonists of Melbourne and the surrounding Districts for Labour.

Sir, Melbourne, 26th July 1842.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 18th June, requesting, by the desire of the Committee of the Legislative Council (appointed to consider the question of immigration generally, with the view of ascertaining the present and prospective demands of the colonists for labour, and how the same may be most effectually and economically met), that I would afford them such information, on certain points, as it might be in my power to obtain.

Understanding that it was desirable that this report should be forwarded to you with as little delay as possible, I immediately took such steps as lay in my power to meet your wishes. I have now the honour to lay before the committee a brief exposition of the opinions of a number of the better informed and influential gentlemen of this district, to whom circumstances allowed me a ready access, in the form of a report, drawn up by two gentlemen whom I commissioned to receive their several communications. The Acting Immigration Agent. The Sub-Treasurer.

However briefly expressed, I trust that the information thus produced may be of use to the Committee. My own opinions on the several points brought forward coincide in the main with those that are set forth in this document. I however request permission to add a few brief remarks.

I am decidedly of opinion that, taken as a body, the emigrants who have been sent to this colony within the last 18 months have been of an inferior description to those previously supplied. From the knowledge I have gained of the character of a considerable proportion, —a knowledge which can only be gained after they have become colonists, I should say that the object of the exporters at home had been to collect, and not to select; to secure, at a given time, the requisite number to fill the vessel, with as little trouble to themselves as was consistent with a bare compliance with the letter of the Regulations. The large importations we have received of so called labourers, married men with very large families from the south and south-west of Ireland, and single women from Bristol, Cork, Dublin, or Glasgow, have given us ample occasions of finding to our cost that the letter of the Regulations may be tolerably well followed, and yet the main object, to effect which they are framed, completely defeated. With reference to the latter, it may be remarked, that the mere object of supplying the colony with a proportion of females may indeed be attained by such importations, but the above are certainly not the localities likely to furnish a really valuable class of either farm or domestic servants. Once furnished with the requisite certificates, and passed by the officers appointed to the duty in England, it is impossible for the local Board to reject an individual presenting himself or herself here, unless occurrences during the voyage, that could not be concealed, have given premature publicity to the impropriety of the selection. Queries 1, 2, and 3.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

From the experience we have had of the working of the new Regulations, I should say, that all the precautionary measures taken by the Home Government, however strong, and however strictly carried out, are still insufficient to secure the colonies against the introduction of a large proportion of exceedingly indifferent, if not of worthless hands. In the collection of most of these, and their presentation for passage as bounty immigrants, perhaps the exporters may have contemplated no deception; the details set forth in the certificate, and the signatures placed at its foot, may be real; the party may be one whom friends sincerely wish to advantage by emigration, and not merely to get rid of; no direct fraud may be contemplated, still he may not belong to the class of labourers which it is the object of the Regulations to secure. But instances of gross fraud are not wanting, and when the perfect impunity with which certain of these have been practised is remarked, the suspicion arises whether they are not much more numerous than is supposed.

To the majority of the frauds that have been detected the surgeons superintendent of the ships must have been parties, directly or indirectly; and I need not remind the Committee how great, when this is the case, and while the interests of that officer are bound up with those of the importer, must be the difficulty of deterring the imposition.

Should the present system of bounty emigration be continued, I not only think that further measures must be taken at home to enforce the selection of proper individuals, but that it is imperative that the surgeon superintendent in every case should be a Government officer, in the interest of the Government, and preferably a naval man of mature age and experience. This officer should have the entire control over the medical stores and comforts of every description, and a general power of providing that the provisions given out be supplied of the quality and in the quantity prescribed by the Regulations. Perhaps, generally speaking, no exception can be taken to the medical talent of the gentlemen recently chosen to fill the office of surgeon superintendent on board the emigrant ships; but a great want of experience in the management of large masses of emigrants on shipboard has been evident, and this deficiency has, in several cases, been productive of exceedingly serious results.

It may be well for the Committee to take into consideration whether the increase in the rate of bounty has been attended by advantage or disadvantage, as far as the quality of the labour supplied is concerned. I am scarcely in a position to prove it, but I am inclined to think that the indifferent character of much of that imported since 1841, has been the result of such augmentation, and the inducement held out, by the more considerable profit to be reaped, for men of less established character to engage in the business.

The smaller degree of profit to be gained formerly left the business in the hands of those whose profits were derived from their ability to carry it on upon a large scale. With these a careful selection was almost indispensable, as the rejection of even a small proportion of the emigrants would exercise a very serious effect on their gains. In the case of many of the smaller speculators who have entered into the trade latterly, I am convinced that there has not only been a want of experience, but that the larger amount of the profits would allow them to incur the risk of the rejection of a certain proportion without serious inconvenience.

The attention of the Committee will have been doubtless drawn to the certain fact that, from Mr. Marshall downwards, a practice has prevailed with many of the exporters to exact sums of various amounts, under divers pretexts, from the emigrants, in part payment of their passages; this I consider a most culpable practice.

Queries 4, 5, and 6. These queries may be considered sufficiently answered by the accompanying report.

I coincide in the opinion expressed in the report, as to the proportion in which single women and single men should be introduced into this district.

Query, No. 7. It is impossible for me to hazard an opinion in reply to this query. The sales of land must depend upon the demand, and the demand upon the introduction of capital. I should hope that some land may be disposed of, but I cannot flatter myself that the revenue to be thus raised will be at all commensurate with the claims that must be made upon it, even leaving immigration out of the question.

I have no hesitation in stating, that I consider the projected loan to be both necessary and expedient.

I consider that it would be well to provide for the introduction annually of about 4,000 able-bodied immigrants into this quarter, for two or three years to come; I have no doubt but, if properly selected, that number would find ready employment; they might perhaps be introduced in the proportion of 2,000 single men to about 1,500 of each of the other classes.

In addition to the report to which I have already alluded, I have the honour to enclose a communication which has been handed into my office by the immigration agent accompanying a general return, illustrative of immigration into this district, in bounty ships, from 1st January 1841, to the close of February in the present year, which I considered might be useful to the committee; and further, a return of the number of immigrants of every description in the employ

employ of or in any way dependent on Government in this district at the present date; merely remarking, with reference to the latter, that no doubt can exist, but that all of the individuals thus upon our hands would have found employment long ago had they been of the proper description. This was clearly demonstrated on the arrival of the ship "Earl of Durham," on the 18th of June, with 119 immigrants, the whole of whom, with the exception of four or five families, were at once eagerly engaged by the settlers or residents of the town and neighbourhood.

I have, &c.,

To the Clerk of the Councils, Sydney. (signed) C. J. La Trobe.

(N.)

(No. 42/1345.)

Copy of a Letter from Messrs. Patterson and Lonsdale to C. J. La Trobe Esq., relative to the demand for labour in Melbourne and the surrounding Districts.

Sir, Melbourne, 22d July 1842.

In compliance with your Honor's directions, we have submitted the series of queries forwarded to you by direction of the Committee of the Legislative Council, upon the subject of immigration, to a considerable number of gentlemen, residents in the town and surrounding district, who were most likely to be well informed; and we beg to submit a summary of their opinions on the subject.

It appears to be the general impression, that the character of immigration has not been kept up during the last 12 or 18 months, as compared with that of former years; which opinion is strongly expressed by some of the gentlemen who have well considered the subject. Opinion on Query the 1st.

The prevailing opinion is that the selection of emigrants has not been conducted with becoming care or attention; and that in most cases they have not been procured from those parts of the United Kingdom most likely to afford really good and useful servants. Opinion on Query the 3d.

The universal opinion is, that the description of labour chiefly required in the district comprises shepherds, good farm servants who can plough with reins or bullocks, reap, sow grains, and use the spade; a few good gardeners, a few mechanics, and some male and female good domestic servants who really understand their business, and who are of good character. Opinion on Query the 4th.

The actual demand for labour at present seems not to be very urgent, but the universal opinion decidedly is, that should labour not continue to be regularly, and at short intervals supplied, to a certain amount, the price will most certainly, and that very soon, attain its former ruinous advance, with its usual attendants, insolence, disobedience, and reckless carelessness on the part of the employed towards the employers. Opinion on Query the 5th.

The late large importations of labour into the district has had the most beneficial effects; it has brought labour, or rather wages, down from their former oppressive price to a more equitable rate; it has made servants of every class more obedient to their employers, and more careful and diligent in their respective callings; and it has placed the proprietors of the soil in a position to cultivate and improve the land purchased from the Crown, and has thereby directed their attention more to agricultural pursuits.

The present rates of wages appear to be as follow:—

First class farm servants, 25*l.* to 30*l.* per annum, with rations; second class farm servants, from 20*l.* to 25*l.* per annum, with rations; shepherds, from 25*l.* to 30*l.* per annum, with rations; rough carpenters to be employed on a farm, from 30*l.* to 50*l.* per annum; female farm and dairy servants, from 15*l.* to 20*l.* per annum, with rations; and housemaids, from 10*l.* to 15*l.* with rations; good mechanics, such as carpenters, joiners, smiths, wheelwrights, &c., from 10*s.* to 15*s.* per diem, and find themselves. Opinion on Query the 6th.

If these mechanics are hired by the year, and rationed, they receive from 30*l.* to 70*l.* a year.

The general opinion of the best informed is much in favour of a loan, to be raised upon the security of the land revenue, for the purpose of immigration. Opinion on Query the 8th.

Emigration to these colonies has been heretofore conducted in two different modes; viz. by ships chartered by the Home Government, and by ships sent out by private individuals, each on the bounty system. We are not in possession of sufficient data whereby to form an opinion as to the relative merits of the two methods. Query the 9th, with general remarks.

As respects the question to what extent immigration may be required in future, we have no hesitation in giving it as our opinion, which is also the decided opinion of all the gentlemen consulted on the subject, that during the next 12 months the wants of the district will require at the rate of 30 families, each not to have more than one child, or if more than one child to each family, the youngest of such family of children not to be less than

NEW SOUTH WALES.

than 10 years of age; unmarried males, chiefly consisting of agricultural labourers and shepherds, and a few good house servants, at the least 60; unmarried females, good housemaids, not less than 30. The above proportions, if regularly introduced each month in the year, might meet the wants of the district. But many circumstances may occur meantime to require a much larger supply of labour. We beg further to observe, that during the last two years, too great a proportion of married people, with large families of children, have been brought out to the colony. The settlers would not engage this description of labour, on account of the children, who could not be of any use to them.

The consequence was, that hundreds of married men could not find employment in either town or country, and were thrown on the bounty of Government, who, to save them and their families from starvation, gave them employment in the public works.

A large proportion of single females, chiefly from the south and south-west of Ireland, have been imported into the colony during the last 18 months. These young women have been found so totally unqualified for the common wants of the colony, most of them having never been in service at home, and being utterly unacquainted with the duties of housemaids, could not find employment but with the greatest difficulty. They consequently became a heavy burden on Government, who has supplied them all along with rations and lodgings. The number of this description of females, we are happy to say, has been gradually reduced to 18 at the present time. It ought to be known that these helpless peasants have at all times been very desirous to obtain employment, and have generally shown virtuous dispositions.

Several single girls, most of them not exceeding 16 years of age, selected in large towns, such as London, Liverpool, Leith, and Bristol, generally turned out badly, and soon resumed their former abandoned habits. Therefore to obtain good, useful, and virtuous farm and domestic female servants, the country towns and rural districts in England, Scotland, and the north of Ireland are to be preferred.

First rate useful mechanics and handicraftsmen are mostly to be procured in large towns

We beg further to observe, that the regulation which requires that an equal number of single males and of single females be introduced into the colony might be modified with advantage. The single men on their arrival here obtain employment at once, and can engage to go any distance into the country, where they are chiefly required. The single females, on the contrary, are obliged to look for situations in the town or neighbourhood, where they can be under the protection of a mistress; consequently, the demand for their services is vastly less than that for single men. We give it as an opinion that the relative proportion of single females to single men ought to be as six of the former to ten of the latter.

Opinion on Query the 2d.

Queries No. 2. and No. 7. were not submitted with the others for the opinions of the gentlemen, as it was considered that the public generally could not be informed on these subjects. But from what has fallen under our own notice, we beg to give the following opinions:—

The arrangements made for the health and comfort of the immigrants have been in most cases satisfactory; in others, indifferent; and in others again, decidedly bad. In the indifferent class, one or more articles of provisions were found either bad in quality, or deficient in quantity to last the whole of the voyage. In the decidedly bad, several of the articles of provisions were not only bad in quality, but deficient in quantity for the consumption of the entire voyage. In two or three cases, the quantity of medical comforts sent on board for the voyage seemed deficient; and in one or two other instances, the surgeon superintendent appeared to have acted with more regard to the interest of his employer in the distribution of these comforts than to the dictates of liberality and humanity.

Opinions on Query the 7th.

With regard to this question, we find it next to impossible to give any definite or satisfactory answer; but we may not be far wrong in concluding, that but a small and inadequate sum for the purposes of immigration can be calculated on within the next 12 months. The severe pressure of the times has so generally prevailed in these colonies for a considerable time back, that we think it can scarcely be removed within the above period; and unless a good many capitalists arrive on our shores, we are of opinion it would not be prudent to attempt making large sales of Crown lands.

We are, &c.

His Honour C. J. La Trobe, Esq. Superintendent of Port Phillip.

(signed) JOHN PATTERSON.
W. LONSDALE.

STATEMENT

(O.)

STATEMENT of the PORTS from which VESSELS sailed with EMIGRANTS for New South Wales, between the 1st of July 1841 and 30th of June 1842; showing the Number of Bounty Immigrants, classified according to their Religious Persuasions.

SAILED FROM.	Number of Vessels.	NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS.				
		Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Jews.	Freethinkers.	TOTAL.
London and Plymouth -	31	2,685	2,862	27	- -	5,574
Liverpool - -	22	3,085	2,706	- -	3	5,794
Bristol - -	2	255	96	- -	- -	351
Greenock - -	17	2,816	864	- -	- -	3,680
Leith - -	4	204	1	- -	- -	205
Dundee - -	1	155	75	- -	- -	230
Cork - - -	19	1,134	2,498	3	- -	3,635
Kingstown - -	1	77	185	- -	- -	262
TOTALS -	97	10,411	9,287	30	3	19,731

Immigration Office, Sydney, 8th August 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MEREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

(P.)

RETURN showing the Number, classified according to their Religious Persuasions, of BOUNTY IMMIGRANTS landed at Sydney and Port Phillip respectively, between 1st July 1841 and 30th June 1842.

WHERE LANDED.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Jews.	Freethinkers.	TOTAL.
Sydney - -	6,410	5,906	27	3	12,346
Port Phillip - -	4,001	3,381	3	- - -	7,385
TOTALS - -	10,411	9,287	30	3	19,731

Immigration Office, Sydney, 8th August 1842.

FRANCIS L. S. MEREWETHER, Agent for Immigration.

(Q.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURN of the Native Counties of the BOUNTY IMMIGRANTS, who arrived in the Colony between the 1st of January
Subdivisions of ENGLAND,

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Northern Counties.		Southern Counties.		Midland Counties.		Eastern Counties.		WALES.	
Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.
Northumberland	77	Kent	357	Cheshire	174	Lincoln	52	Caernarvonshire	7
Cumberland	96	Sussex	387	Derbyshire	55	Norfolk	55	Denbighshire	20
Westmoreland	41	Surrey	187	Nottinghamshire	86	Huntingdon	10	Flintshire	4
Durham	28	Hampshire	100	Staffordshire	90	Cambridge	24	Merionethshire	3
Yorkshire	401	Berkshire	31	Warwickshire	73	Suffolk	16	Montgomeryshire	9
Lancaster	1,992	Dorsetshire	45	Worcestershire	41	Bedford	6	Cardiganshire	3
Isle of Man	27	Wiltshire	147	Leicestershire	96	Hertford	35	Radnorshire	—
		Somersetshire	303	Rutlandshire	4	Essex	87	Pembrokeshire	57
		Devonshire	382	Northamptonshire	50	Middlesex	657	Caermarthenshire	3
		Cornwall	152	Buckinghamshire	28			Brecknockshire	1
		Alderney	18	Oxfordshire	27			Glamorganshire	37
		Jersey	1	Gloucestershire	206			Anglesea	11
		Isle of Wight	1	Monmouthshire	96				
				Herefordshire	40				
				Shropshire	34				
TOTALS	2,093		2,061		1,012		942		155

N. B.—The Total numbers from England, Scotland,

Immigration Office, Sydney,
8th August 1842.

(R.) (8.*)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURN of the Ages, Native Countries, Religion, Education, &c. of the BOUNTY

AGE AND SEX.									NATIVE COUNTRY.		
ADULTS.		CHILDREN.						TOTAL.			
Males above 18.	Females above 15.	Males from 15 to 18.	From 7 to 15.		From 1 to 7.		Under 1 Year.		England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.			
9,293	9,719	280	1,232	1,086	1,579	1,418	411	392	25,930	6,193	9,245	16,593

* Return (8.) has been embodied in Return (R.)

Immigration Office, Sydney,
8th August 1842.

(Q.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

1841 and 30th of June 142; showing the Number from each County, and the aggregate Number from each of the grand Scotland, and Ireland.

SCOTLAND.				IRELAND.							
Northern Counties.		Southern Counties.		ULSTER.		LEINSTER.		CONNAUGHT.		MUNSTER.	
Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.	Counties.	Number of Souls.
Caithness	23	Edinburgh	394	Donegall	455	Longford	117	Leitrim	81	Clare	1,001
Sutherland	—	Haddington	99	Londonderry	461	West Meath	242	Sligo	93	Kerry	82
Ross-shire	33	Berwickshire	25	Antrim	644	East Meath	156	Mayo	93	Cork	1,131
Cromartie	—	Roxburghshire	22	Fermanagh	220	Louth	210	Galway	1,024	Waterford	121
Nairnshire	9	Selkirkshire	5	Tyrone	1,283	King's County	447	Roscommon	399	Tipperary	2,650
Invernessshire	65	Peebles	14	Down	511	Kildare	209			Limerick	1,162
Murrayor Elgin	15	Lanarkshire	383	Cavan	694	Dublin	777				
Banff	6	Dumfries-shire	78	Monaghan	316	Queen's County	197				
Aberdeenshire	58	Galloway	38	Armagh	455	Carlow	119				
Kincardine	11	Ayrshire	125			Wicklow	187				
Forfarshire	129	Dumbarton	56			Kilkenny	382				
Fifeshire	162	Argyleshire	22			Wexford	203				
Kinross	9	Renfrewshire	179								
Clackmannan	9	Stirling	58								
Perthshire	202	Linlithgow	2								
Orkney & Shetland Isles	7	Bute	7								
	735		1,307		5,689		3,346		1,690		6,167

and Ireland respectively, are shown in Appendix (R.)

Francis L. S. Merewether,
Agent for Immigration.

(R.) (S.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

Immigrants, who arrived in the Colony from 1st January 1841 to 30th June 1842.

RELIGION.				EDUCATION.			MARRIED OR SINGLE ADULTS.			
				NUMBER OF ADULTS WHO CAN			MARRIED.		SINGLE.	
Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Jews.	Free-thinkers.	Read and Write.	Read only.	Neither Read nor Write.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
15,498	11,792	37	3	11,361	3,798	3,833	4,431	4,287	4,862	5,332

Francis L. S. Merewether,
Agent for Immigration.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

(T.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

RETURN of MORTALITY on board of IMMIGRANT SHIPS which arrived in PORT JACKSON between the 1st of July 1841 and the present Period.

No.	NAME OF SHIP.	DATE of ARRIVAL.	ADULTS.		CHILDREN.		TOTAL.
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
		1841:					
1	Herald	15 July	1	2	7	6	16
2	Ellen	21 July	5	3	3	2	13
3	Queen Victoria	26 July	1	-	3	2	6
4	Burhampooter	7 August	-	1	-	1	2
5	Cadet	9 August	1	1	11	6	19
6	Pearl	17 August	-	1	1	-	2
7	Eleanor	22 August	2	2	5	4	13
8	Elizabeth	23 August	1	1	5	4	11
9	Forth	28 August	1	2	-	2	5
10	Percy	28 August	-	1	1	2	4
11	Runnymede	30 August	-	-	1	-	1
12	Adam Lodge	30 August	-	2	2	7	11
13	John Renwick	1 Sept.	3	3	4	1	11
14	Chion	7 Sept.	-	2	2	6	10
15	United Kingdom	7 Sept.	-	1	19	20	40
16	Gilbert Henderson	16 Sept.	-	-	-	2	2
17	Canton	18 Sept.	-	-	4	7	11
18	William Turner	5 October	1	-	1	2	4
19	Lady Kennaway	12 October	-	1	1	3	5
20	Livingstone	21 October	-	-	-	3	3
21	New York Packet	23 October	1	1	4	5	11
22	Ayrshire	25 October	2	3	12	5	22
23	Fairlie	5 Nov.	-	-	4	2	6
24	Larne	6 Nov.	3	1	3	3	10
25	Trinidad	6 Nov.	-	2	1	1	4
26	Joseph Cunard	28 Nov.	1	1	7	2	11
27	Albatross	30 Nov.	-	2	1	1	4
28	Comet	3 Dec.	-	-	1	2	3
29	Columbine	3 Dec.	1	-	1	2	4
30	William Jardine	23 Dec.	1	1	1	-	3
31	Emerald Isle	23 Dec.	-	1	1	1	
32	Lalla Rookh	26 Dec.	-	-	1	-	1
33	Lady Clarke	26 Dec.	1	-	-	-	1
		1842:					
34	Marchioness of Bute	7 January	-	1	1	2	4
35	Wilson	7 January	-	1	1	1	3
36	Duke of Roxburgh	10 January	1	2	3	4	10
37	Anne Milne	17 January	1	1	9	8	19
38	Agnes Ewing	18 January	1	3	4	5	13
39	Margaret	24 January	-	-	11	12	23
40	Carthaginian	28 January	2	-	4	2	8
41	Hope	29 January	4	4	2	2	12
42	William Sharples	29 January	2	3	-	2	7
43	Alfred	29 January	1	1	2	-	4
44	Mathesis	30 January	1	1	1	3	6
45	Champion	13 February	2	1	4	5	12
46	Agnes	13 February	-	-	-	3	3
47	Broom	13 February	4	2	11	10	27
48	Sir Edward Paget	14 February	-	2	1	2	5
49	Sarah Botsford	15 February	1	1	2	1	5
50	Nabob	20 February	-	-	4	13	17
51	Palestine	6 March	-	-	1	-	1
52	Woodbridge	8 March	1	4	1	4	10
53	Sir Charles Napier	10 April	1	1	7	2	11
		TOTALS	48	63	176	185	472

Sydney, 21st June 1842.

ARTHUR SAVAGE, Health Officer.

(U.)—RETURN of SHIPS placed in QUARANTINE, at PORT JACKSON, between the 1st of July 1841 and the present Period.

No.	NAME OF SHIP.	Date of Arrival.	DIED ON BOARD.					DIED IN QUARANTINE.				
			Adults.		Children.		TOTAL.	Adults.		Children.		TOTAL.
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1	Eleanor	22 Aug.	2	2	5	4	13	—	—	—	—	—
2	New York Packet	23 Oct.	1	1	4	5	11	4	4	1	- -	9
3	Ayrshire	25 Oct.	3	3	12	5	23	- -	1	1	- -	2
	TOTALS		6	6	21	14	46	4	5	2	- -	11

Sydney, 21st June 1842.

ARTHUR SAVAGE, Health Officer.

(V.)—RETURN of the Amount of QUARANTINE EXPENSES charged against Parties importing Immigrants on Bounty into NEW SOUTH WALES between the 1st of January 1841 and the 30th of April 1842.

Name of Ship.	Name of Importer.	Name of Agent.	Date of Arrival.	Immigrants, where Landed.	Amount of Quarantine Expenses.	REMARKS.
					£ s. d.	
Eleanor	Messrs. Thomas Gore & Company.	Messrs. Carter & Bonus.	22 August	Sydney	355 0 0	The quarantine expenses of the "Margaret" and "Ayrshire," amounting to 541*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.* were defrayed by the Government, as in these cases the existence of disease was not considered to be attributable to neglect on the part of the importers or their officers.
New York Packet	John Miller	Messrs. Shepherd & Reid.	23 October	Sydney	932 2 5	
Agricola	Jonathan B. Were	Messrs. Carter & Bonus.	3 October	Port Phillip	264 13 8	
			TOTAL		1,551 16 1	

Immigration Office, Sydney, 6th May 1842.

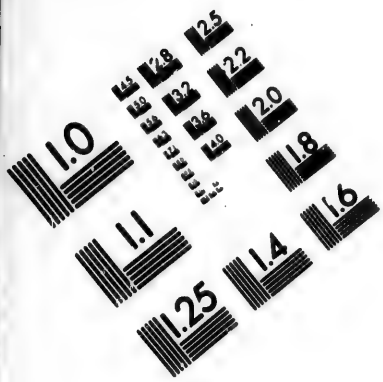
FRANCIS L. S. MURRAY, Agent for Immigration.

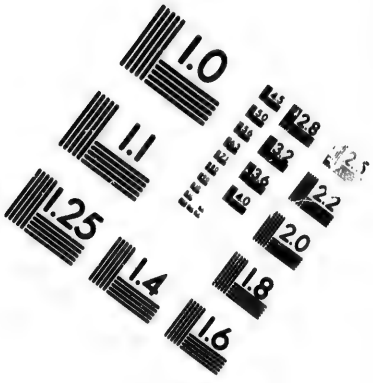
(W.)—ABSTRACT from the RETURNS of the Commissioners of CROWN LANDS, for the Half Year, from 1st January to 30th June 1841; showing the Number of Persons occupying Stations beyond the Limits of Location, the Population, the Extent of Land under Cultivation, and the Number and Description of Live Stock.

DISTRICTS.	Number of Stations.	Number of Acres under Cultivation.	Number of Persons in each District.					STOCK.			Assessment as calculated on the Number of Stock given.
			Free.		Bond.		TOTAL.	Horses.	Cattle, including Calves above 6 Months old.	Sheep, including weaned Lambs.	
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.					£ s. d.
Port Macquarie	59	630	187	37	192	8	424	216	12,013	43,282	167 19 0½
New England	78	750	434	40	413	4	881	385	21,120	237,012	672 5 1
Liverpool Plains	155	313	617	83	536	6	1,242	1,323	121,452	293,484	1,387 1 3
Bligh	43	428½	286	41	197	- -	524	220	24,903	135,344	440 7 2½
Wellington	67	610	512	56	295	- -	863	531	90,409	187,538	587 7 11½
Lachlan	97	2,740½	503	137	251	3	894	1,109	36,632	105,714	463 1 0
Murrumbidgee	150	1,726	755	265	458	7	1,485	1,439	66,996	162,439	775 2 6½
Maneroo	132	2,563	873	213	452	6	1,544	2,998	84,691	212,656	1,002 6 6½
TOTALS	761	9,761	4,157	872	2,794	34	7,857	7,623	398,216	1,397,469	5,495 10 7½

Colonial Treasury, Sydney, 22d June 1842.

C. D. RIDDELL.





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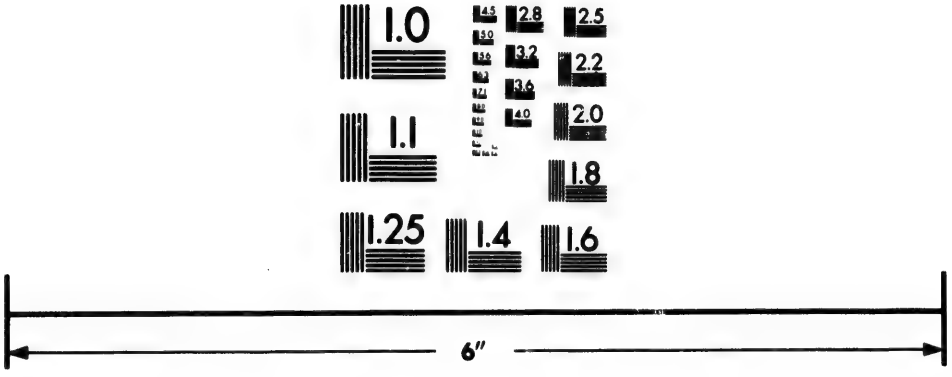

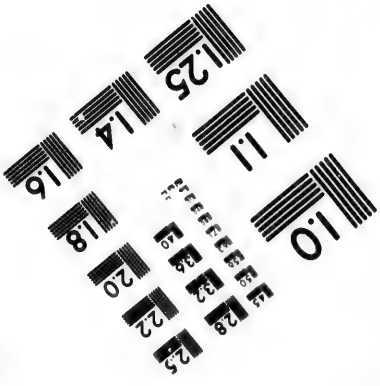

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(X.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

ABSTRACT from the Returns of the COMMISSIONERS of CROWN LANDS, for the Half Year, from 1st July to 31st December 1841; showing the Number of Persons occupying Stations beyond the Limits of Location; the Population; the Extent of Land under Cultivation; and the Number and Description of Live Stock.

DISTRICTS.	Number of Stations.	Number of Acres under Cultivation.	Number of Persons in each District.					STOCK.			Assessment as calculated on the Number of Stock given.
			Free.		Bond.		TOTAL.	Horses.	Cattle, including Calves above Six Months old.	Sheep, including weaned Lambs.	
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.					£ s. d.
Port Macquarie	46	707	369	72	226	5	672	272	14,291	58,673	214 19 1
New England	85	884	519	74	516	3	1,112	454	26,277	353,417	906 3 10
Liverpool Plains	154	455	778	106	542	6	1,432	1,501	145,972	339,033	1,624 18 1½
Bligh	47	232	307	29	163	- -	499	294	27,548	152,174	492 17 7
Wellington	69	538½	546	64	240	3	853	640	28,126	207,214	615 9 8
Lachlan	102	2,087	580	154	217	15	956	1,170	36,362	111,452	474 1 7
Murrumbidgee	148	1,762	743	235	432	6	1,416	1,477	72,821	185,519	855 18 6
Maneroo	155	2,647	938	230	361	15	1,553	2,860	87,859	242,206	1,089 11 9½
TOTALS	806	9,313½	4,650	973	2,697	53	8,373	8,668	437,256	1,647,748	6,974 0 2

Colonial Treasury, Sydney, 22d June 1842. } C. D. RIDDELL.

(Y.)—NEW SOUTH WALES.

ABSTRACT from the Returns of the COMMISSIONERS of CROWN LANDS, for the Half Year, from 1st January to 30th June 1842; showing the Number of Persons occupying Stations beyond the Limits of Location; the Population; the Extent of Land under Cultivation; and the Number and Description of Live Stock.

DISTRICTS.	Number of Stations.	Number of Acres under Cultivation.	Number of Persons in each District.					STOCK.			Assessment as calculated on the Number of Stock given.
			Free.		Bond.		TOTAL.	Horses.	Cattle, including Calves above Six Months old.	Sheep, including weaned Lambs.	
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.					£ s. d.
Clarence River*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Port Macquarie	25	534	112	47	130	5	294	191	9,741	12,917	90 3 7
New England	76	1,046	560	196	428	7	1,191	432	26,030	286,034	763 19 10
Liverpool Plains	144	459½	681	98	425	4	1,208	1,526	141,780	248,676	1,422 19 3
Bligh	43	218½	309	56	104	2	471	301	24,372	113,860	403 14 9
Wellington	62	607	450	73	235	1	799	619	26,966	182,649	536 15 10½
Lachlan	103	1,833	584	164	242	5	995	1,324	46,478	116,474	549 13 10
Murrumbidgee	155	1,316	547	250	254	6	1,057	1,650	70,929	234,950	951 8 9
Maneroo	146	2,727	992	268	373	13	1,646	2,826	86,522	219,168	1,032 13 9
TOTALS	756	8,963	4,275	1,082	2,193	43	7,593	8,869	422,708	1,419,728	5,773 8 7

* Return has not yet been furnished by the Commissioner for this district.

Colonial Treasury, Sydney, 22d June 1842. } C. D. RIDDELL.

(Z.)

IMMIGRATION, 1842.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE TAKEN BEFORE THE IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

F. L. S. Merewether, esq. p. 85	L. V. Dalhunty, esq. - p. 111	F. Ogilvie, esq. - - p. 132
A. Savage, esq. - - p. 92	G. Cox, esq. - - p. 114	A. R. Denison, esq. - p. 134
J. L. Innes, esq. - - p. 95	H. O'Brien, esq. - p. 116	Hon. C. D. Riddell, esq. p. 135
H. H. Browne, esq. - p. 98	G. M'Leay, esq. - p. 118	L. Macalister, esq. - p. 137
W. H. Christie, esq. - p. 101	R. Scott, esq. - - p. 121	Sir T. L. Mitchell - p. 138
W. A. Miles, esq. - p. 102	M. H. Marsh, esq. - p. 124	Mr. W. Jaques - - p. 140
T. Icely, esq. - - p. 109	E. Mackenzie, esq. - p. 129	W. Miller, esq. D.C.G. - p. 142

The Right Reverend THE LORD BISHOP OF AUSTRALIA in the Chair.

Wednesday, 25th May 1842.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

F. L. S. Merewether, Esq.

25th May 1842.

FRANCIS LEWIS SHAW MEREWETHER Esq., Agent for Immigration, called in, and examined.

1. YOU are Agent for Immigration, and Chairman of the Immigration Board?—I am.

2. How long have you held these offices?—About ten months.

3. During that time, it has been your duty to examine the immigrants on arrival?—It has.

4. Have the immigrants introduced within that period been exclusively on the bounty system?—Yes.

5. Can you furnish the Committee with a Return of the immigrants introduced into this colony on whom bounty has been paid, or is now payable, from the date of the Returns in last year's Report up to the present period?—I can, and will prepare such a Return.

6. Does the principal business of examining into the qualifications of immigrants on their arrival, devolve upon you?—It does.

7. Are you sufficiently acquainted with the proceedings in previous years to institute a comparison between the immigration of those years and the present; and do you consider that the character of immigration has been kept up?—I am not so well acquainted with the conduct and character of Immigration previously to my taking charge of the department as to be able to institute a comparison between that of the past ten months and that of any former period.

8. Can you speak, in a general way, as to the suitableness, to the general wants of the colony, of the immigrants introduced within the period over which your experience extends?—My general impression is, that they have been ill selected.

9. Do you mean to say you are of opinion, that the ill-selected immigrants outnumber the really useful?—The demand for labour has been such, that any man with a pair of hands would be found useful in this colony; I cannot therefore say, that those immigrants, who appear to me to have been ill selected, have not been really useful. What I mean to state is, that neither physically nor morally have they been of so good a description as might have been chosen, and as the colony had a right to expect. As regards the English, I feel myself competent to speak more positively; and of their eligibility generally, with the exception of the artificers, my opinion is anything but favourable. With regard to the Irish, I think that I shall be borne out by the testimony of better judges than myself, when I express my opinion, that a large proportion of those recently landed here have been far from favourable specimens of their country's peasantry. I speak with greater confidence on this subject than I should otherwise feel myself justified in doing, with so limited an experience as I possess, because I am aware that my opinion coincides with that of all the other members of the Immigration Board, who have had the opportunity of comparing the recent with the former Immigration. I am also the more convinced of the correctness of my judgment, by the opinion of an officer of the Government in England, resident at a port from which a large number of the most ineligible immigrants have been shipped. His opinion, formed on or before the embarkation of the emigrants, I will take the liberty of submitting to the Committee in support of that formed by myself on their arrival here. The remarks to which I refer are as follows:—"If I had any thing to do with the selection of the candidates, it strikes me, that a goodly number of those gone from hence would have lost their passage. You pay liberally, and have therefore a right to expect a good article; but I fear some will be found burdens instead of benefits."

10. In what respect do you consider them ill selected?—Many of the single women have been proved to be of notoriously bad characters; and many also to have been of a class much above that prescribed by the regulations, and in every way unsuited to the present demand in the colony. Amongst the men, the immigrants whom I characterize as ill selected, have been a number of those imported under the description of "agricultural labourers,"

NEW SOUTH WALES.

F. L. S. Mereweather, Esq.

25th May 1842.

labourers," which appears to have borne in England a most comprehensive signification, and to have included every grade of persons not mentioned in the Bounty Regulations, from classical tutors down to "lumpers" and "hodmen." I do not think that one third of the number calling themselves agricultural labourers were really such. In many cases, where men have really been out-door manual labourers, though ignorant of agriculture, and have been so represented originally in their certificates, the bounty agents, aware that such persons were not properly eligible, appear to have supplied the deficiency, by prefixing "Agl." to their more correct description of themselves, given in the general term "labourer."

11. Do you consider those calling themselves shepherds to be of a better description than the agricultural labourers?—Their number was very small, and they were, I think, decidedly of a better, and the greatest part of them of a good description.

12. If the immigrants designated "agricultural labourers" were not such, why were they recommended by the Board for bounty?—Many were not recommended by the Board for bounties; others were recommended from want of proof, or from absence of well-grounded suspicion at the time, that the individuals were of other callings than that represented. In some cases of this latter description, the amount paid to the importers has been charged against them out of sums payable to them on account of immigrants subsequently introduced. In very many instances, individuals professing to be agricultural labourers, have proved to be utterly unacquainted with the ordinary work of a farm servant, though evidently country people; as in the case of many of the Irish, whose experience has been found not to extend beyond potatoe culture. It was, however, considered by the Board, that such men, though ignorant of agriculture, would be serviceable as shepherds.

13. But, in point of fact, bounty was refused on a considerable number from want of qualification?—Yes, I hand in a Return of the number. (*Return put in.*)

14. How much per cent. has been deducted for disqualification from the total amount of bounties claimed?—About four and a half.

15. Have you had reason to suppose that the regulations, established by the Commissioners, for the examination of the certificates of intending emigrants, have been found insufficient to prevent imposition?—I have been informed that a very large number of certificates have been rejected by the Commissioners as unsatisfactory documents, but in very many instances the vigilance of those officers has been eluded.

16. Can you state what precautions are established by the regulations of the Commissioners to prevent unsuitable persons from emigrating to this colony?—Every emigrant is required to furnish himself with a certificate of health, age, character, and other requisite particulars, signed by a medical practitioner, and by two householders of repute, which signatures are certified by either a clergyman or a magistrate, or both. These certificates, when duly prepared, are transmitted to the office of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and there examined; or in case any deficiency in the number of persons embarking occurs on the eve of the sailing of a vessel, the Government agent, at the port of embarkation, has the power of examining and passing these certificates. It is the duty of this last-mentioned officer to inspect the emigrants before their departure, and to compare their appearance and their own representations of themselves, with the statements on the face of their certificates. If satisfied that the individuals are such as they are represented to be, he allows them to embark, but not otherwise.

17. Notwithstanding these precautions, deceptions still take place?—Yes.

18. Can you offer an opinion as to the particulars in which these deceptions are practised?—As the most satisfactory mode of answering this question, I beg to quote from my official records a few cases of attempted or intended frauds which have been brought within the knowledge of the Immigration Board.

(1.) Bounty refused on —— ——, a single man, in consequence of the following statement made by the party presented for examination under that name:—He said that he was a married man; that he had heard before his embarkation that his wife was dead, but he was not sure of the fact, and that he had left a child of four years old living with his wife's mother; his real name was —— ——, but he had been induced by Mr. ——, a sub-agent employed by the importers, to embark under the name above mentioned; he had left his native place, ——, from inability to obtain employment, and was working at ——, at the time when the —— was on the point of sailing from that port; he saw Mr. ——, who was also then in ——, and applied to him for a passage; Mr. —— told him that a certificate would be necessary, which it was then too late to obtain, but that he had one in his possession in favour of one —— —— who did not intend to embark, and if he, ——, would assume that name, all difficulty would be removed. So the matter was arranged. —— appeared before —— the Commissioners agent at ——, with —— ——'s certificate, and the bounty sub-agent was by "to put words into his mouth."

(2.) —— —— was represented in her certificate as a single woman, 29 years of age; she was presented as such to the Board, though her appearance would bespeak at least 50 years; from an application for a free passage ineffectually made to the Commissioners in the year 1840, and from other documents which have been lodged in my hands, she has been shown to be more than 40; to have been married, and to have a daughter in the colony 16 years old. In this case, an alteration in the figures marking her age appears to have been made subsequently to the original preparation of the document.

(3.) It appears from her own evidence, and the evidence of a party present at the time, that —— ——, at the suggestion of a clerk in the office of Mr. ——, a sub-agent, employed by the importer to collect immigrants for him, and with the sanction of the sub-

agent himself, passed herself off as the wife of her own son, in order to obtain a free passage; and that to herself and her son one berth was appropriated, as man and wife.

(4.) —— ——, in his examination before the Board, stated, "I arrived in the colony under the name of —— ——, but my real name is —— ——; I came out as a married man, but I am a single man; the woman who came out as my wife had five children on board, who passed as my children; one of them, —— ——, is a married man. The agent of —— in —— was well aware of the circumstances of the case, and also was aware that —— —— was to have come out as the husband of his own mother, but that he had married subsequently in ——, when I was asked by her to represent her husband."

(5.) —— ——, a single female, reported by the surgeon superintendent to have been delivered of a son on board, produced no separate certificate in her own favour, being included in that of —— ——, who stated that the child was his, and that he was not the brother of this woman, though represented to be so in the certificate. The surgeon superintendent informed the Board that this woman's real name was —— ——; that she was married, and that her husband had been transported to this colony for murder.

(6.) —— ——, represented in her certificate to be single, stated that she was the wife of a man named —— ——, a prisoner of the Crown; and that a boy, called —— ——, represented in the certificate of a man named —— —— to be his son, was her son. The surgeon superintendent informed the Board that this woman's name was —— ——, and that she was no relation of —— ——, although he was stated to be her brother.

(7.) —— ——, speaking of the single females who came out in the same vessel with him, stated, "I know —— ——; I do not think her a correct girl; I have seen —— ——, a sailor on board, * * * * * *; the constable on board took no steps to prevent this conduct, as she had an apartment of her own partitioned off from the other emigrants, for which accommodation she paid the agent in ——; her uncle told me she was a married woman; that her husband had 500*l.* per annum in Ireland; that he was obliged to separate from her, owing to her conduct, and grant her an allowance of 80*l.* per year; she was at that time living on the bounty of this sailor."

(8.) —— —— stated, "the —— ——, the —— ——, and the —— —— had a girl each, while the vessel was at ——, out of the emigrants; their names were —— ——, —— ——, and —— ——. They had these girls * * * * * Two of these girls, —— —— and —— ——, were brought on board at ——, by an officer of a poor-house."

(9.) Mr. —— stated, "I came out to this colony in the ——; I am son of ——; I first intended to have come out as a bounty emigrant, and I applied to Mr. ——, the agent in ——, for that purpose. He told me a ship was to sail in about a week, and that he would have a certificate filled up for me, if I would let him have 6*d.* for the doctor. I do not know who the medical man was, but I heard he used to attend at the —— inn, for the purpose of signing certificates for persons desirous of emigrating. The agent at the same time said he would prefer that I should sail from ——. I refused to go to the —— church to get a clergyman's signature, as I thought the clergyman would know me. The agent replied, he was an old man, and probably would not recollect me; I then left Mr. ——, and went down to ——; I went to Mr. ——'s office, and saw Mr. ——, his clerk; who got a certificate signed for me, in the name of ——; and in the same certificate were entered four other names, who were represented to be brothers and sisters. We were then taken before Mr. ——, the commissioners agent in ——, for the purpose of being passed by him. I had been previously prepared for this interview by the selecting agent's clerk, who directed me to give the following account of myself: 'That my father was dead, and that my mother had sailed for Australia in the ——.' The commissioners agent asked Mr. —— if my mother had sailed, as was stated by me, and Mr. —— said, 'she had, he believed.' In the evening the selecting agent's clerk, Mr. ——, came after office hours to the place where the intended emigrants were lodging, and a conversation passed between him and me, with some others, relative to the characters required by Mr. ——. I declined procuring any character. The clerk then addressed himself to a young woman, and asked her if she had lived nowhere. She replied she had lived with ——, but that she could not get a character from him, as he would not permit her to start for Australia, if he knew such was her intention. He then requested me to write a character for this girl in her late master's name; which I refused to do, saying it would be forgery. He then asked a young gentleman standing near me to write it for her. The young gentleman refused to write a character in another's name, but consented to write a copy of one according to the clerk's dictation, which he (the clerk) said he would transmit to ——, to the address of Mr. ——, the selecting agent there, in order that it might be put into the post-office of that town. The clerk said, the one character would answer all (meaning me and the four others included in the same certificate), and therefore required 13*s.* from me for the selecting agent in ——, as a reward for posting the character; adding, he could not be expected to endanger himself without obtaining some remuneration. I also gave him 2*l.* to purchase things he said I would require on the passage. I paid him 6*l.* for the perfecting of the certificates, including my own name and that of the other four."

These few instances will show the nature of the deceptions practised, and also how difficult it must be for officers of the Government to cope with the artifices of such unscrupulous traders. I feel it however right to remark, that none of the instances of fraud cited, nor any similar instances, occurred in the case of emigrants sent out by London agents.

19. On arrival here, the immigrants have to undergo a strict examination?—Yes, and in consequence of the numerous attempts at imposition upon the Government and the colonial public, which have latterly been discovered, the Board have felt it their duty to make much

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much stricter inquiry than under ordinary circumstances they might have considered necessary.

20. The strictness of that inquiry, it is to be presumed, secures the colony against bounty being paid on unsuitable immigrants?—It does, to a certain extent; but many instances have been brought, even officially, within my knowledge, in which the Board have been deceived, and have recommended the payment of bounties on ineligible persons. I could add from my private knowledge, and so, I am persuaded, could every member of the Board, many other instances.

21. What cause exists to prevent the Board from exercising such vigilance as would prevent the practice alluded to?—The surgeon superintendent being in the interest of the bounty agents, and not in that of the Government, the Board has, in almost all cases, to contend with every artifice which the merchant's self interest, assisted by the surgeon superintendent's knowledge of the parties, can suggest, to cloak any ineligibility in the immigrants brought under inspection.

22. Have you discovered, generally, whether their ineligibility has been in point of age, character, or ability as useful labourers?—Some few have been rejected as above the prescribed age; and of the females a considerable number have been rejected on the score of character. Of the males, the greater number have been refused in consequence of their real occupation not being one of those mentioned in the regulations, or in accordance with the description given of them in their certificates.

23. Are you aware whether the form to be filled up by persons desirous of obtaining a passage on bounty, and submitted to the agent for Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, contains any statement of the trade of calling of the applicant?—It does.

24. Then how do you conceive it to be possible that, with the certificate appended, parties can pass themselves as of a trade or calling which they really are not?—In some cases alterations have evidently been made on the face of the certificates, subsequently to their original preparation, and probably to their examination by the Commissioners; as ineligibility in this respect, under the colonial regulations, would not form a ground of objection with those officers. Many instances have also been brought within the knowledge of the Board, in which the signatures of "respectable householders" have been attached to the certificates, without any knowledge on the part of the householders of the persons in whose favour they signed. Of such instances I will cite two; the first of which carries with it unusual weight, from the circumstance of the statement having been made on oath before a magistrate.

(1.) —— ——, whose certificate states him to be a blacksmith, is a ladies shoemaker, and is employed as a shoemaker in Sydney; he has stated upon oath that the certificate produced in his favour was filled up by a clerk in the selecting agent's office; that he knew nothing of the signatures attached to the document; and that the signature, purporting to be his own, was not written by him.

(2.) —— ——, states, "I went, accompanied by my brother, to Mr. ——, the agent in ——; he told us we could go out as agricultural labourers on payment of 1*l.* each; we got certificates from him, to which we signed our names; we then asked him if we were to get the other signatures to the certificates: he said not; there was no use in putting us to that trouble, as he would do all if we paid 6*d.* for each signature; Mr.—— put his own name down as one of the respectable householders. The Thursday before we left —— I went, accompanied by my mother, brother, and sister, to Mr.——, the commissioners agent; on our way Mr. ——, the clerk of the selecting agent in ——, asked us if we knew the names which were signed to our certificates; we replied we did not; he then handed the certificates to us, and desired us to see, as Mr. ——, the commissioners' agent might ask us. I never was an agricultural labourer. I was a clerk in a shipping office in ——. My brother is a draper. My sister was never in service; she left school to come out here as a bounty immigrant."

25. Are those certificates placed in possession of the parties to whom they relate?—They are generally placed in the hands, not of the emigrants themselves, but of the bounty agents through whom they have been provided with a passage.

26. Are you of opinion, if strict correctness in these certificates could be ensured, together with the examination of the Board here, that that would correct the abuses which it appears have crept into the bounty system?—If that were possible; but I am of opinion that correctness in these documents can only be ensured by the vigilant superintendence of disinterested officers, having opportunity of personal communication on the spot with the intending emigrants, and with the parties signing in their favour.

27. Do you mean to state it as your opinion, that no regulation established by the Commissioners in England could prevent the practice of such positive and wilful deceptions as appear to have been practised in a great number of instances?—I think not without double expense; as I am of opinion that a local agency under the direction of the Government, for the examination of the intending emigrants, would be requisite, besides the agency established by the contracting merchant for their selection.

28. Do you not think that much must always depend on the character of the contracting merchants?—Certainly; but the merchants must necessarily be greatly dependent upon the local agents employed by them to select the emigrants; and on the respectability of these sub-agents, more than on that of the merchant, would depend the faithful execution of the bounty order. For instance, some of the grossest frauds lately brought under our notice have

have been practised in the office of the selecting agent of one of the most respectable mercantile houses in Sydney. His employers have in the most honourable manner repudiated his acts, but the evil has not been the less for their abhorrence of it.

29. Does it appear to you that any advantage would arise from requiring all persons acting in the capacity of bounty agents to obtain a licence from the Commissioners of Colonial Land and Emigration, which should be granted to persons only of good character, and be revocable on proof of misconduct or deception having occurred with their knowledge?—If the future conduct of emigration is left to mercantile speculation, I am of opinion that such a check would be highly desirable.

30. You have stated that the bounties have been refused on a considerable proportion of the whole number claimed for; setting aside those cases, and confining yourself to those on whom the bounty has been paid, do you think that the immigrants, taken as a class, afford a fair sample of the persons whom it would be desirable to introduce into this colony?—I think not.

31. Do you think, then, that so long as emigration is conducted as a mere mercantile speculation, the profit or loss of the transaction will be considered, rather than the benefit to the colony by the introduction of a moral and industrious class of immigrants?—I do. A considerable proportion of the English called "agricultural labourers," and many of the Irish, who have lately arrived, appear to have been discontented idlers, or men employed in casual labour in or about the seaport towns where the emigrants embarked. These men were doubtless shipped because they came ready to hand, and were obtained without expense; and thus I think it would ever be. So long as men of a description sufficiently within the terms of his contract to make his payment safe would seek him in his office, the agent would assuredly not give himself the trouble to inquire whether he might not obtain a better class of persons from the rural population; much less would he think of incurring additional expense for the sake of obtaining a better description of emigrants than he was bound to furnish.

32. Do you not think that the experience they have had of the penalty they are liable to, by withholding the bounty on parties not suitable, will render the agents for the future much more cautious in the selection of those whom they send out?—It will probably make the contractor more cautious, but I do not think it will have the effect of securing to the colony the best description of persons within its reach.

33. May not the perseverance of Government, in the strict application of the regulations, at length convince the agents that it will be their best policy to send out none but such as are truly what they are represented to be?—The agents will find it their policy to send out such persons only as would make their payment sure, but no better; at least if any additional expense would be entailed on them by the selection of a superior description.

34. Do you imagine, that, under such a rigid interpretation, persons would be found willing to engage in such an occupation?—I think that in order to secure, through a mercantile agency, the best description of labourers within the reach of the colony, it would be necessary to give so closely defined a description of the persons wanted, and to enforce so rigid an adherence to the rules laid down, as would render the contract a most embarrassing, if not an unprofitable one; and would also be injurious to the colony, by excluding many persons who might be allowed free passages under the greater latitude of choice, which might safely be allowed to agents less influenced by considerations of self interest.

35. Do you consider that such disallowances would have the effect of raising the character of immigration generally, or merely prevent the introduction of such parties as are not of the character required by the regulations?—I think that the contractor would, as a matter of course, still execute his order in the manner most profitable to himself, and send the cheapest description which he could furnish without risking the loss of payment.

36. The point which the committee wish to ascertain is, your opinion whether, by a strict yet not unjustly rigorous application of the regulations, it might not be possible so to discriminate the different classes as to confirm the allowance of bounty to such individuals only among the immigrants as should be truly worth to the colony the expense incurred by their introduction?—I think that the rejection of decidedly ineligible immigrants might generally be ensured; but I am of opinion that the selection made would still not be as good as might be made if the question of cheapness did not enter into the consideration of the parties intrusted with it.

37. Do you think, then, that by another system a more valuable class of immigrants could be obtained at the same cost?—I do.

38. Will you be so good as to explain your views as to the manner in which such a system is to be provided?—The cheapness of the bounty system must consist almost entirely in the lower rate at which merchants are able to fit-out and victual their ships; and this cheapness may be secured by still leaving this part of the management of the immigration business (and it is his legitimate business, which the selection of the emigrants is not,) in the hands of the merchant. I would propose that the Commissioners should contract with the merchants for shipping and provisions, at so much per head for each emigrant embarked; that the surgeon superintendent should be an officer appointed by the Government, and devoted to the interests of the Government; that upon his report, together with that of the Immigration Board in the colony, should depend the full payment of the merchant or shipowner, as well as of the officers appointed to select the emigrants; these officers, I would propose, should be appointed by the Commissioners, and act under their

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general control, but should be paid by the colony in the way of head-money on each immigrant pronounced to be of an eligible description, according, as now, to some fixed standard.

39. You think, judging from past experience, that that would be as cheap a plan?—A nearly similar plan has, I believe, been pursued by some of the holders of bounty orders during the past season, and has left them a considerable profit. They have contracted for the selection, conveyance, and victualling of the emigrants, by giving up to the shipowner and emigrant broker their claim to the government bounties, with the exception of a percentage reserved as their own share in the profits of the speculation. The selecting agency which I propose would, probably, be somewhat more costly than that employed by these merchants, but the increased expense would be met by the sum which now forms the merchant's profit, or, in other words, the value of the order which he holds.

40. Has proof been afforded that parties have come out under the bounty system who would otherwise have paid their own passages?—One instance has been brought within my knowledge in the last examination before the Immigration Board; and it naturally raises a suspicion that such may have been the case in other instances, where individuals have appeared to be of a description above the class to which they represented themselves to belong.

41. Will you furnish the committee with the particulars of the case you have alluded to?—The case, as stated by the immigrant himself, is as follows:—"I went to Mr. —— ——'s office, and saw his clerk, Mr. —— ——; he asked me if I intended to pay my passage; I said I did; he said I was a great fool, and if I gave him 5*l.* he would send me and my wife out free of expense. I said I would give him 5*l.* if he ensured me a passage out; he wanted the money then, but I said I would not give it until I saw my passage secured. I gave him 10*s.*, and he handed me a blank certificate to get filled up. He asked me what I was; I replied, I was overseer of a manufacturing mill; he said I should put myself down as an agricultural labourer. After keeping the certificate for about a week, I returned it (not filled up) by post to this same clerk; my reason for not getting it filled up was, I did not wish to ask any one in my own neighbourhood to sign what I knew to be false. A few days after I sent him the certificate I received a note from him, saying that he had submitted my certificate, and directing me to come to ——, to pass the Commissioners agent. I accordingly did go, and called at the office of Mr. ——, the selecting agent, where I again saw this clerk. Next day I was taken by him before the Commissioners agent. This same clerk asked me for a doctor's certificate; I got a note certifying to my health, which I gave him, and he copied the doctor's name into the certificate; when I had my passage secured to me I paid him the 5*l.* I promised."

42. Can you furnish the committee with a return of the number of ships which have arrived from the 1st of January 1841 up to the latest period, showing the ports from whence they sailed?—I can. (*Return handed in.*)

43. Can you furnish the committee with a return of the number of immigrants arrived during the same period from the various parts of the United Kingdom?—I can. (*Return put in.*)

44. Looking at these returns, do you think that the effect of the present system has been to bring a due proportion of emigrants from the various parts of the United Kingdom, according to the population?—I am of opinion, that regard only has been had to the degree of cheapness with which emigrants could be procured, and their means of paying the sums required from them by the bounty agents. These two considerations have, I think, much restricted the selection of emigrants, and the latter more particularly. On this point I will beg leave to quote from the report of the Board remarks which were suggested by the evidence of a very intelligent immigrant, who stated, "that many useful people were deterred from emigrating by the charges exacted by the selecting agents at home." "Our observations during the past six months, has led us to form the same conclusion as that stated by ——, that many respectable and efficient labourers are thus deterred from emigrating, and that less suitable people, who are in the possession of the means of making the payment required, usurp the place of good, and useful, and honest labourers, who though in such distress as would induce them to seize with thankfulness the opportunity held out by emigration of bettering their condition, yet are not sufficiently troublesome or burdensome to their neighbours to make their riddance worth paying for. To this cause we attribute the selection of a number of persons who have latterly emigrated under the description of agricultural labourers and female domestic servants, though evidently of a superior class; and also the number of persons encumbered with large families. The former class are able to pay the bounty agent from their own resources, or those of their relatives; the latter are provided probably with the requisite funds by the parishes in England, and in Ireland by the landlords anxious to clear their estates, and glad therefore to remit a quarter's or half-year's rent to any of the small holders under them who may be disposed to emigrate. It is also to be observed, that the usual payment of the 3*l.* per head on children, in addition to the bounty, makes a large family rather an object of preference with the selecting agent." And I would here observe, with reference to a former answer, that in comparing the expense of the system proposed by me with that of the system now in operation, I have considered that portion only of the cost of the selecting agency which is charged upon the bounties, and have not included that charged upon the emigrants themselves. Should the bounty system be continued, I am decidedly of opinion that the practice prevalent amongst the holders of bounty orders, of taking money from the emigrants shipped by them, should be absolutely prohibited, its tendency being, as is represented in the extract from the report just quoted, to cause the introduction of a superior

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class, and also of an inferior class, to that which it is the intention of the Government and the interest of the colonists to import at the public expense.

45. Do you consider such a system of agency as is now in operation calculated to overcome the repugnance which the agricultural population of England has to emigrate?—I do not think that in such an agency the rural population would feel so great a degree of confidence as would induce them to emigrate; still less, that such an agency would be influential enough to remove the indisposition which they feel to leave their homes in quest of employment in so distant a country as this; and one, too, which they are inclined to view with some degree of dread, as a place set apart for the punishment of evildoers. The agency to be desired is a local one under the immediate superintendence of the Government, and one in which the parochial clergy, who would probably be themselves the actual and the best selectors of emigrants, would feel confidence, and with which they could cordially co-operate. I will here remark, that if the parochial clergy can be enlisted in our service, the class of persons which they might be most instrumental in sending out is precisely the class wanted by the colonists; I mean, young married couples. Instead of discouraging, as they now frequently do, early marriages, they might consider it rather their duty to promote them, wherever, by emigrating, parties would place themselves in a position to maintain any offspring which might be the issue of their union.

46. Have the surgeons superintendent under the bounty system been generally properly qualified persons, both as regards their medical skill, and their general fitness for the charge of so many persons?—As regards medical skill, they have been, generally speaking, competent. In the qualifications requisite for the management of the emigrants, they have been, in too many instances, deficient. They have also been generally much too young for such a charge.

47. According to the regulations a gratuity of 10*s.* 6*d.* per head is allowed to the surgeon superintendent?—Yes.

48. Has that answered the purpose intended, of obtaining a superior class of persons, with an interest in the proper performance of their duty?—Certainly not.

49. In what respect has it failed?—The gratuities, which were intended as an increased payment to the surgeon, and thus a means of obtaining a more efficient superintendence of the emigrants, have been turned into a source of profit to the bounty agents, who, in very many instances, are known to have required from the surgeons a guarantee that they would pay a sum out of their expected receipts from the Colonial Government, for their own passage. The gratuities have thus relieved the merchant from the payment of surgeons, which, under a lower rate of bounties, they were compelled to make out of their own funds.

50. Do you know of instances of the kind, and how many?—Three instances have been officially brought under the notice of the Government, and I have been made aware of others.

51. Do you think the arrangements on board emigrant ships have been such as to ensure order, morality, and discipline, as well as the health and comfort of the emigrants during the passage, as far as they have come under your observation?—Several cases have been brought under the knowledge of the Immigration Board in which gross immorality and want of order have been shown to have existed in emigrant ships.

52. Have these cases formed the subject of official investigation?—Most of them.

53. What was the result of these investigations?—In these cases, bounty has been refused on such of the emigrants as were shown to have misconducted themselves; and the gratuities have been withheld from the surgeon and officers when any neglect of duty or misbehaviour on their part has been shown.

54. Have the ships been generally of a suitable class?—Decidedly.

55. Is any examination made of the provisions after arrival here?—Yes.

56. Have they been found of suitable quantity and quality, with reference to the number of emigrants embarked?—With scarcely any exception.

57. Have proper arrangements been made for the separation of the unmarried females from the bulk of the emigrants, and also for their being placed under proper protection, as required by the regulations?—A large number of single females have been found by the Board not to have been under the required protection, and the bounties have been withheld in consequence. The ships have been differently partitioned, according to the opinions of different officers intrusted with their inspection. In some, the passengers deck was not divided at all in others, the single males were kept apart from the families and single females; and in others, there have been three partitions. To the latter plan I am inclined to give decided preference, as the one most conducive to morality and decency; and when the partition is formed, from top to bottom, of grating, the current of air cannot be much obstructed.

58. By the regulations, the same number of single young women must be introduced as of single young men; and if the bounty were withheld from the one, it would be withheld from the other also?—It has been so decided by the Government.

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Arthur Savage, Esq.

26th May 1842.

Thursday, 26th May 1842.

ARTHUR SAVAGE Esq., Surgeon R. N., called in, and examined.

1. YOU are health officer, and have held that situation for about two years?—Yes.

2. You are also a member of the Immigration Board?—Yes.

3. In your capacity as a member of that board, you examine the bounty immigrants on arrival?—Yes.

4. Of what description of persons have you usually found them during the last year?—They have been infinitely worse as a whole, during that period, than previously.

5. In what respect?—In general character, and efficiency as labourers, both physically and morally; and in many instances being of a description superior to the class of labourers, and consequently unsuited to the wants of the colony. There has been a gradual deterioration during the last eight months.

6. Is there any circumstance to which you would attribute this deterioration?—I ascribe it to the great number of persons who have now entered into the business of bounty agents, and to the emigrants being hastily collected in seaport or other large towns, instead of being selected from the country districts. Formerly, the agency was confined to one person—Mr. Marshall, of London, whose Irish agent, Mr. Bennard, of Cork, had a good opportunity of selecting the class of emigrants suited to the wants of the colony. Some ships, however, have brought an unexceptional selection of people during the period I allude to.

7. Then a number of inexperienced persons, you think, have engaged in the business of sending out bounty emigrants?—Yes, and some of them not much interested in the welfare of the colony.

8. Have you reason to believe that there have been any cases of fraudulent attempts to pass improper persons for bounty?—Many persons have proved to be not what they were represented to be, and must, therefore, I am of opinion, have been sent out with a fraudulent intent on the part of the agents at home.

9. Then you consider that they have engaged themselves in the business with a view to the profit to be derived from it, rather than to benefit the colony?—Decidedly so.

10. Can you state what number of available labourers you have found in each hundred immigrants, on an average?—About 15 in every 100, men, women, and children.

11. That is in reference to the families, and not to the single men and single women?—Yes.

12. What has been the available amount of labour, taking an aggregate upon both classes?—About 20 to 25 per cent.

13. Have you had reason to be satisfied with the arrangements made for the health and comfort of the emigrants on board ship?—For health and comfort the arrangements were generally good.

14. Have you been equally satisfied with the arrangements made for the order and morality of the emigrants?—Sufficient precautions have not been taken to ensure order and morality on board; which may be attributed in many cases to the youth, inexperience, and general ineligibility of the captains and surgeons.

15. Was this the general character of the captains and surgeons, or were there exceptions?—Several ships arrived here well conducted in every sense; and, with scarcely an exception, the provisions and the ships were good, and suited for the service.

16. In respect to health, has there been less mortality than formerly?—Yes.

17. Were any complaints made by the emigrants in respect to the treatment they received during the voyage?—Yes, many.

18. Were those complaints more in reference to immorality than to comfort?—The most important were in reference to immorality.

19. When you say that the surgeons superintendent were unqualified, do you mean that they were deficient in medical skill, or incapable of undertaking so great a charge?—I mean that they were ineligible from want of the necessary acquirements for so important an undertaking; not that they were deficient in medical knowledge.

20. Were there many instances of misconduct on the part of officers of ships brought under the notice of the Board; and were the gratuities withheld in consequence?—The gratuities were withheld in three or four instances in consequence of misconduct.

21. Those cases formed matter of inquiry before the Board?—They did.

22. Then the gratuities have failed to produce the effect intended?—Yes, entirely failed, in my opinion; indeed the gratuity to the surgeon, in most cases, has been his only remuneration; and it has come to the knowledge of the Board that the surgeon has even been required to pay 20*l.* or more, out of that gratuity, as passage money, besides having had to submit to degrading complainces.

23. Do you consider that the gratuities to surgeons and officers have served the purpose of obtaining a better class of emigrants?—They have not.

24. What induces you to suppose that the gratuities have failed in that respect?—The surgeons and officers generally knew nothing of the emigrants before embarkation.

25. Then the gratuities granted have been virtually merely so much added to the amount of bounties?—The gratuities, I think, may be looked upon merely as a bonus to the importers.

26. Have they failed as well in the case of the masters and officers as in that of the surgeons superintendent?—No; I think they have succeeded as regards the mates, in making them more attentive to the 'tween-deck duty.

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27. Upon the whole, do you conceive that the arrangements for the general management of the ships, and the health of the passengers, have been inferior to what they were formerly?—The management of the ships, in point of the physical treatment of the emigrants, has been as good as in former years.

28. Will you define to what in particular you attribute the falling off you have mentioned in point of moral observance?—I attribute it to want of tact in the persons appointed to superintend the emigrants, as well as to the want of persons competent to frame the necessary regulations, and to see them carried into effect. The evils to which I refer, may be attributed generally to the want of proper order during the early part of the voyage.

29. You appear to state that there has been an inferior description of persons sent out; might not this have rendered proper arrangements more difficult?—Yes, in consequence of the emigrants being not only of an inferior description, but of a troublesome character also.

30. Have you seen the paper required to be filled up by every person desirous of a passage on bounty?—I have seen and perused a great many.

31. Can you account for the introduction of so large a number of unsuitable persons, in spite of the precautions taken by these certificates?—Some blame may be attributable to the Government agents at the ports of embarkation, whose duty it is to see that the qualifications of the emigrant embarking, judging from personal appearance, correspond with those given to him by his certificate; but, where bold and well-concerted deception is practised, the agents cannot detect forgeries unless they have previously entertained suspicion.

32. Are you aware whether any means are adopted to ascertain that the householders who sign the certificates in question are really the respectable persons they represent themselves to be?—I am not aware that there is any check in this respect, except that of requiring a clergyman or magistrate to certify to the respectability of the parties.

33. Your opinion then is, that these certificates are liable to great abuse, and are insufficient for the purposes intended?—That they are so has been proved, I think, by the many cases of deception discovered by the Board.

34. Are these certificates returned to the parties named in them, or to the affreighter?—To the affreighter, I believe.

35. Would it not tend to prevent alteration in these certificates, if they were transmitted to the colonial government, after being signed by the proper officer?—It would check alteration subsequently to their approval by the Commissioners.

36. Have you reason to believe that alterations have been made?—I have.

37. Do you consider that the instances in which you suspect deception to have been practised are so numerous as to bear a large proportion to the whole number of immigrants introduced?—A very considerable proportion; I have no hesitation in saying that we have failed to detect a large number.

38. Then in fact it is not a casual, but a standing defect?—Undoubtedly so, as was proved in evidence taken before the Board in the case of the "Sir Charles Napier."

39. Can you suggest any practical additional means of precaution, by which these abuses might be reduced in number, if not wholly eradicated?—Yes, I think they might be greatly reduced by having local travelling inspectors, whose duty it should be to examine personally the candidates for free passages, and make inquiry respecting their general character.

40. Do you propose that these local inspectors should be appointed by the Government, and held responsible for the efficient discharge of their duty?—Yes, they should be so appointed, and held strictly responsible to the Commissioners of Colonial Lands and Emigration.

41. Can you form an opinion as to the number of active agents which would be required to carry on that inspection throughout England, Ireland, and Scotland?—Ten active men might be sufficient for England: four would, I think, answer for Ireland; but this the Commissioners would be able to determine more accurately.

42. Are you aware whether that mode of proceeding would answer for Ireland?—Yes. I filled the ship "Magistrate," in which I came out as surgeon superintendent, through the instrumentality of the clergymen, with whom I put myself in communication, and by visiting sundry places, at stated times, notice being previously given of my intent to do so; in this way, and by establishing depôts, I consider emigrants of the most eligible kind, and in sufficient number, could be procured.

43. Are you aware whether the practice of requiring from the emigrant himself a sum of money, independent of the bounty, has been productive of much injury?—Yes, I think it has; and that many objectionable persons have been embarked in consequence of their being able to pay the sums demanded, while unobjectionable persons may have been refused because they could not pay the sums required of them.

44. Does it appear to you that the agent would be more likely to require the sum from a person whose passing the Board here might be doubtful, than from a really useful person?—Certainly; but I am under the impression that many of the agents acted on the opinion that almost any person, of whatsoever age or character, would pass the Board here.

45. The effect of that must be to encourage the introduction of persons not likely to prove useful to the colony?—Yes.

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46. Do you not think, if it were printed in the certificates, as a warning to emigrants, that they were not to pay the additional sum, it would greatly check, if not wholly prevent this practice?—Decidedly.

47. Then you would recommend that such a condition should be printed in the certificates?—I would most strongly.

48. Would you recommend that the sums so taken by the agents at home should be deducted from the amount of bounties, or that the bounty should be entirely forfeited?—I would recommend that the bounty, in each case satisfactorily proved, should be wholly forfeited.

49. Do you consider the bounty itself, without any addition, taking the average, if fairly fixed at 19*l.*, remunerative?—My opinion is, that the bounty, at the present rate of freight and cost of provisions, is fairly remunerative.

50. Supposing that all the persons introduced had been useful, would you consider the number introduced in 1840 excessive?—No; if those who arrived had been all useful people they would have been immediately engaged, but numbers of them were burdened with large and helpless families, and ought not to have been allowed to embark.

51. Supposing that the system were acted upon, which would only admit of the introduction of grown-up children, does your observation extend to them, or to young children?—My observation extends to young children; I would not allow any family to emigrate with more than two young children; I mean those requiring the assistance of a mother.

52. What age would you fix for such children?—Their age should not be under four years.

53. You have stated objections to the bounty system; is there any other which you think could be adopted which would ensure a sufficient number of a better description of persons being introduced, and at a less expense?—Yes, and at a less cost, if the ships were fitted out in Government yards, and every person engaged in fitting them out were made answerable as a Government officer. Captains of private ships, more particularly the regular traders, might also be allowed to bring out small numbers.

54. Do you think it would be better for the Government to provision the private ships, or allow the captains to do so?—I would not propose this as a system, but merely as an auxiliary to an established system under the direction of the Government.

55. You have stated the arrangements on board the ships generally to have been satisfactory; there have been different arrangements: what one would you consider the best calculated to ensure morality and order among the emigrants?—That which would keep the young men apart from the women, by means of a latticed partition.

56. Have not the comforts of the emigrants been circumscribed by taking intermediate passengers?—Yes; I object to the admission of intermediate passengers; they detract materially from the comfort of the emigrants, by occupying the best part of the ship, and interrupting the current of air.

57. Can you state how many immigrants have arrived in any one week?—From the 24th to the 30th of January inclusive, 1,289 arrived.

58. The only ground of even so large a number not going off was, that the colonists did not like them?—Their not going off was owing to so large a number arriving at the same time, and some of them being of the character I have mentioned, and encumbered with large families.

59. Has the port of embarkation, or place of selection, operated to introduce an inferior description of persons?—In my opinion it has.

60. Has it been the practice on board the bounty ships to dispose of articles to the emigrants, including fermented and spirituous liquors?—Yes, both provisions and spirituous liquors; it is a practice which has been the source of evil, and ought to be discountenanced on every account.

61. Have any instances been brought under your notice in which the emigrants have been charged exorbitant prices for those articles, and have so spent the money which would have been serviceable to them on arrival here?—Yes.

62. Is this countenanced by the officers?—It is done, I believe, with the knowledge of the captains.

63. For whose benefit are these articles sold?—For the benefit either of the captain or affreighter.

64. Was the disposal of such liquors with the knowledge or consent of the surgeons superintendent?—I believe not with their sanction.

65. How many cases of quarantine have there been?—Four; three of importance, the "Eleanor," "Ayrshire," and "New York Packet;" the last in particular.

66. Considering the amount of immigration, do you think that a large average?—No; it is less than the average of former years.

67. In the case of the "New York Packet," which you say was one of particular importance, to what cause would you attribute the illness on board that ship?—It was evidently attributable to the want of proper care on the part of the surgeon superintendent.

68. On what account was she placed in quarantine?—On account of small-pox in the first instance; but she was continued in quarantine on account of typhus fever.

69. Was the fever prevalent on board when she arrived?—Yes; but that circumstance was concealed, as was discovered in the course of an examination before the Immigration Board.

70. Was the fever of a severe type?—Yes; fever of a marked typhoid character was discovered

discovered by the naval surgeon, who was appointed to take charge of the healthy in quarantine.

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71. How many deaths were there?—Nine deaths occurred subsequently to her arrival.

72. Was it necessary to place the sick as well as the healthy under care of a surgeon from the shore?—Yes.

73. What was the cause of appointing a surgeon from the shore when there was one on board?—He was appointed in consequence of a petition, signed by the best informed of the immigrants, stating their want of confidence in the surgeon of the ship.

74. Are there any precautions which you would recommend to be taken, on the arrival of immigrant ships, with reference to the health of the immigrants, and their better appearance, which might render them more fitted to enter at once into service?—I think it highly desirable that on arrival the immigrants should be landed on Garden Island, or some other suitable place, to afford them an opportunity of washing their clothes, &c.

75. Is there any similar practice in any other country?—I understand it is done in America, although the voyage there is much shorter than to this colony, and the climate is colder.

76. Would this be attended with any expense?—But very trifling, if any.

Friday, 27th May 1842.

JOSEPH LONG INNES Esq., J. P., Superintendent of Gangs and Assistant Police Magistrate, called in, and examined.

J. L. Innes, Esq. J. P.

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1. YOU are a member of the Immigration Board?—Yes.

2. How long have you been a member of that Board?—About two years.

3. Is it your duty, in conjunction with the other members, to examine the immigrants on arrival?—I have taken very little part in this portion of the duties of the Board, on account of personal infirmity.

4. You have been engaged, however, in investigating complaints made by immigrants on arrival?—Yes; I have attended particularly to this branch of my duties.

5. Have there been many cases of complaint during the last 12 months?—About seven.

6. What was the nature of those complaints generally?—Complaints of the conduct of surgeons and of masters, of ill-treatment of immigrants by both, and of immorality on the part of the officers.

7. Did any of the cases you allude to appear to be well founded?—With two exceptions, the "Ayrshire," and, I think, the "Agnes;" and in almost every case, in addition to the immediate cause of complaint, various other irregularities were disclosed in the course of the investigation.

8. Would the latter cases have been undiscovered but for the former ones?—I am of opinion that they would; I am quite certain of it. In the case of the "Marchioness of Bute," irregularities were made known to me subsequently to the departure of the ship, which escaped detection at the time the immigrants were passed.

9. Will you state generally the nature of the irregularities or cases of immorality which were brought under your notice?—Complaints against the captains for ill treating the immigrants, as in the case of the "Carthaginian," which was brought before the supreme court.

10. In what way did the case of the "Carthaginian" transpire?—In the course of an investigation, in consequence of a complaint made by M. A. Bolton, before the Board, three of the members of the Board, being magistrates, felt it to be their duty to issue a warrant against the captain and doctor, which was prepared and signed by me; they were thereupon committed to take their trial, admitted to bail, tried before the supreme court, found guilty, and sentenced each to a fine of 50*l.*, and to be imprisoned for six months. The immediate case of ill-treatment for which the captain and surgeon were tried, as proved on the trial, was their having, one night in the month of December, brought M. A. Bolton on deck about ten o'clock, with six other females; she was then handcuffed with her hands behind her back, and buckets of water were thrown over her by the surgeon and captain, varying in number from two to seven, as stated by the different witnesses. This case, in which a verdict was found against the parties, was not the only case proved against them before the Immigration Board. It was proved to the Board that, some weeks previously to this, in consequence of a trifling dispute about the cleaning of a mess kid, the captain and surgeon had handcuffed the same person, and thrown several buckets of water over her; and had kept her on the poop in her wet clothes so late as 11 o'clock at night, but how much later was not proved.

11. Was there any misconduct on the part of M. A. Bolton, which could lead to such unfeeling treatment?—Not at all; she appears to have been a correct but peevish girl; she was a very moral girl in her conduct.

12. Independently of the sentence passed on the surgeon and captain, did the government take any steps to mark their sense of the impropriety of such conduct?—Yes, their gratuities were withheld.

13. Were there not considerable deductions on the bounties on the immigrants by that ship?—Very considerable; many young women not having been under the protection

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required by the regulations, and many having been proved to have been women on the town, the bounties were disallowed on such, and on a corresponding number of young men.

14. In the course of your inquiries, were there any other improprieties brought under your notice?—Many of the immigrants presented fictitious certificates, and are said in some instances to have paid 6*d.* a signature. This system of fraud has appeared only in the case of a house in Liverpool.

15. How do you think they were able to deceive the agent of the Commissioners, who is obliged to countersign the certificate?—I am sorry to state it, but I can only attribute it to great neglect on his part.

16. Will you state the other subjects of inquiry brought under the notice of the Board?—There were several complaints, both against surgeons and captains.

17. Of what nature?—Immorality.

18. Were there any complaints as to the medical qualifications of the surgeons, or their unsuitableness to exercise the necessary control on board?—In the cases of the "New York Packet" and the "Mathesis," there were very serious complaints against the surgeon for incapacity.

19. In the case of the "New York Packet," the quarantine expenses were not paid?—They were not.

20. What were the reasons for withholding the bounties in the case of the "Mathesis"?—The misconduct of both surgeon and captain, and the insufficiency and bad quality of the provisions; but the reasons will be more clearly seen, as contained in an extract from the Report of the Board, approved by the governor, which, with permission, I will read to the Committee:

"It is our painful duty, therefore, to report that we are not satisfied that the immigrants have been supplied with a sufficiency of wholesome provisions and water, and with reasonably comfortable accommodation; and, we must add, that a want of order, regularity, and decency, appears to us to have existed in this ship, which is, in the highest degree, discreditable to all parties concerned. We cannot, therefore, recommend the payment of any portion of the bounties claimed."

21. Are there any other cases of irregularity than those to which you have already alluded?—The almost universal sale of wine and spirits to the immigrants.

22. For whose benefit?—I am not aware, but certainly with the concurrence of both captain and surgeon.

23. Did it appear that the immigrants had been charged high for such articles?—They were charged 16*s.* per gallon for rum.

24. Could they obtain any quantity they required?—It appears that, in some instances, they could. I have a case before me, which was reported on by the Board, in which a man bought 4*s.* worth on the 23d, 8*s.* worth on the 26th, and 4*s.* worth on the 27th of one month. In this case it appeared that the captain had a sum of money belonging to the immigrant in his hands, from which he took payment. In another case, it was distinctly proved, that an immigrant in the same vessel was allowed to purchase articles, confessed by the master and surgeon to have been unnecessary, even after his money was expended, on depositing his watch in the hands of the chief officer as security.

25. Although these complaints were numerous, yet they formed the exception rather than the rule?—Yes; but I am very much inclined to think that many irregularities occurred which never came to the ears of the Immigration Board.

26. Were these irregularities discovered to have existed in the ships recently arrived, or in those which arrived 12 months previously?—In the ships recently arrived.

27. Then you think there has been a falling off latterly?—Decidedly.

28. To what cause do you attribute these irregularities?—To the gross inattention of the shipping agents at home, whose only aim appears to have been to make as much money as they possibly could out of their bounty orders; to the incapacity of the persons put on board as surgeons; and, I must add, to the culpable neglect of the port agents of the government.

29. If the latter had done their duty in examining the certificates these irregularities would not have occurred?—There would have been fewer irregularities.

30. Then, according to this system, it would appear that the business is carried on more as a mere mercantile speculation than with any regard to the wants or interests of the colony?—So it appears to me.

31. From your observation, have the immigrants who have arrived during the last 12 months been suited to the wants of the colony?—A large portion of the females have been of a good description, but a large number have been of a description which should never be allowed to embark, as will clearly appear from an extract, which I will take the liberty to read, from a Report of the Board:

"The manner in which unmarried females are represented to have been shipped, without reference to character or qualifications, by the person to whom Messrs. —— —— intrusted the selection of the immigrants imported by them during this season, is so disgraceful, that we should have been inclined to receive the statements made in the course of our inquiries as exaggerations, if not perversions of the truth, but for the affidavit of the witness

witness —— ——; not that we are surprised to find that but little attention has been paid to character in the selection of females, for, of want of regard to the interest of the public here, in that particular, we have had but too frequent proof; but we could not have supposed that the evil found by us to exist was of so shameless and so base a character. The statements to which we refer will be found in the evidence of —— ——, —— ——, —— ——, and —— ——; and from their evidence we consider the following facts to be fully established:

"That the clerk of —— ——, agent, has been more than once heard to say, that, so long as he got his number of single women, he did not care if he took them from the streets.

"That the same clerk has encouraged women of the worst character to emigrate under Messrs. —— ——'s bounty permissions.

"That the same clerk was in the habit of getting certificates prepared in a manner nearly approaching to forgery. —— —— states, upon oath, that the certificate which was produced to us in his favour was filled up by this clerk; that he knew nothing of the signatures attached to the document, and that the signature purporting to be his own was not written by him. —— —— states, that 'all individuals had to do was to say that they would go, and this clerk would make it right for them.'

"And we are further of opinion, from the evidence given by —— ——, and from similar statements that have been made to us, in other instances, that the same clerk has been in the habit of directing single men, who applied for a passage, to obtain from the streets, or the brothels of ——, or whence mattered not, the requisite appendage of an unmarried female. It may be well to remark here, that we find a large number of the certificates of character, produced by emigrants embarked at ——, to be signed by this clerk."

32. Are these observations intended to apply generally to the system, or to the cases which have come under consideration of the Board?—Generally, as regards the parties in Liverpool. The London ships were better managed, and particularly those fitted out by Mr. Marshall.

33. Have you any suggestions to offer, tending to improve the system?—In reply to this question, I feel much diffidence in venturing upon any suggestions. The great length of time I have been absent from Europe, nearly 17 years, and the changes which have taken place during that period have been so important, that I fear I am but ill qualified to offer an opinion as to the best method of conducting emigration; but I may state generally, that the surgeon should, in all cases, be approved of by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, who would no doubt satisfy themselves, not only as regarded his professional capacity, but also as to his moral character and general capability for so grave a trust. A man may be a good surgeon, and at the same time altogether deficient in the other qualifications for the important duties of the superintendent of an immigrant ship. The surgeon should clearly understand that, as regards authority over the immigrants, he is the first person on board, and that he is the servant of the public, and not of the parties importing the immigrants. He should make himself acquainted, as far as possible, with every particular connected with the immigrants under his charge, so as to be able, on arrival in the colony, to afford the Board every information. I am also of opinion, if the salaries of the local agents of Government at the different ports, as also those of the selecting agents (should such be appointed), were made in some degree dependent on the final passing of the immigrants in the colony, it would have a beneficial effect. The sale of wines and spirits on board immigrant ships cannot be too strongly condemned; and (after due notice being given) I would not hesitate to recommend the bounty being withheld in any ship where it was proved to have been practised.

34. Have the gratuities to the surgeons and officers been attended with a proper selection of officers desirous of securing the comfort and morality of the immigrants?—Certainly not.

35. To what do you attribute this failure?—To the incapacity of the surgeons appointed. Had proper surgeons been appointed, nearly all the irregularities brought under the notice of the Board would have been prevented.

36. Can you state any thing to the committee respecting the present demand for labour?—I cannot.

37. Do you think there has been an excess of supply within the last 12 months?—Certainly not.

38. Has the supply tended to reduce the rate of wages?—It has caused a considerable reduction on the rate of wages; it has brought them, so to speak, to a wholesome state.

39. Then a very copious supply of labour was necessary, in order to reduce wages to such a moderate rate as the settlers could afford to pay?—Certainly.

40. The effect of this reduction is, that the immigrants are not so prone to change their employers?—Yes, they are more settled, not having any inducement to hunt for higher wages.

41. Do you know whether there are many immigrants out of employment now?—I do not think there are many.

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42. Are there any so who are of a useful description?—I do not think that any useful man need now be without employment for a single day.

43. Connected with your observations on the surgeon-superintendent, is it necessary, do you think, that they should be in the interests of the public rather than of the affreighters?—Certainly; they should consider themselves the servants of the public. There have been two instances only in which the surgeons have come forward to expose irregularities.

44. Have there not been written engagements, on the part of the surgeons, to assist the affreighters against the public?—There have.

45. What is the effect of the affreighters requiring from the emigrants a certain sum of money, in addition to the bounty?—A very bad one; the people are left penniless on their arrival here, and become discontented.

46. Has it not also the effect of inducing persons to come out on bounty, who are of a superior class, and likely on arrival here rather to employ labourers than become labourers themselves?—Certainly.

47. Do you consider that the parochial clergy might be beneficially employed in the selection of emigrants?—I am convinced that the agency of the parochial clergy would be the best that could be employed.

48. Do you think that the fines, and the withholding the bounties, in the cases you have spoken of, will have the effect of preventing or checking attempts at imposition in future?—I think there will be greater caution, and more honest dealing, on the part of the shippers, in future.

Friday, 27th May 1842.

HUTCHINSON HOTHERSALL BROWNE, Esq., J. P., called in, and examined.

H. H. Browne, Esq. J. P.

1. YOU are Water Police Magistrate?—I am.

2. You are also a member of the Immigration Board?—Yes.

3. Do you attend, in that capacity, the examinations of the immigrants on arrival?—I do, with few exceptions.

4. How long have you acted in that capacity?—About 20 months.

5. Have the immigrants been generally of a useful class, or has there been any deterioration during that period?—I think that they have not at all improved latterly; a large proportion of those who have arrived within the last eight months have been from the sea-port towns; I think that but a small proportion of those who have arrived during that period have been of a useful class, and few have been such as I should have sent up to my own station.

6. Can you state what the generality of them have been employed in at home?—I have found that several, as many as 60 of those who have arrived during the last few months, had been employed at home about the wharfs and shipping, and have gone to sea again.

7. Would you attribute this falling off to the fact of a greater number of persons embarking in the trade, without the experience necessary to conduct it properly?—I think that the principal cause is the reckless manner in which selections have been made at home. The best ships have come from London; the worst have come principally from Liverpool and Greenock, where no care seems to have been taken in the selection, the object being merely to fill up the ships.

8. Do you conceive then that the business has been conducted as a mere mercantile speculation, having regard to profit only, and without reference to the wants or interests of the colony?—I think it has been altogether a mercantile speculation, carried on with a view to profit only.

9. Have there been many instances of complaint that have formed the subject of investigation before the Immigration Board, and what has been their nature?—Very few cases of complaint were formerly made; most of the investigations which have taken place lately have arisen out of abuses accidentally discovered to the Board; in fact, the people are not willing to complain, even where just causes exist, provided they have been tolerably well treated by the captain and surgeon.

10. Have the arrangements in the ships, with respect to the separation of the married and unmarried females, been such as to insure morality on board?—The ships have been generally good, and well provisioned. The best arrangement for the observance of morality has been the entire separation of the females from the males; the plan pursued by Mr. Marshall. Intercourse between the crew and the young women has been thus prevented. Neither morality nor decency can be insured on board vessels without partitions.

11. Have there been any complaints with regard to immorality on board the ships?—In most cases, where investigations have taken place, immorality has been found to have existed, though not previously complained of.

12. Have not the ships, on board which immorality has been proved to have existed,

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formed a very small proportion to the whole number that have come out?—A very small proportion; but if we had been aware that abuses prevailed, such as have been discovered during the last eight months, we should probably have discovered more.

13. Then you have been put upon your guard by the discovery of abuses within the last eight months?—Yes; several abuses have come to light during that period.

14. Do you think Marshall's ships have been better conducted than any other?—They have been decidedly superior to any other ships. The only objectionable arrangement in his ships was the blocking up the after part of the between decks, by berths for intermediate passengers, which prevented the free circulation of air.

15. Have the surgeons-superintendent in general been competent, both as regarded their medical skill, and their fitness to take charge of so large a number of people?—I think they have not generally been proper men; they have not been possessed of the moral qualities requisite for so responsible a situation.

16. Then, in your opinion, it is a matter of vital importance that the surgeons-superintendent should be not only skilful in their profession, but also possessed of the moral power requisite for the proper control of the people committed to their charge?—Certainly.

17. Have the gratuities to the surgeons answered the purposes for which they were granted?—I think not; they have been of benefit only to the importers, as relieving them from the payment of surgeons.

18. Then the only effect of granting the gratuities to surgeons has been to create a virtual addition to the bounties?—Yes; such has been their only effect.

19. In any future system, how would you have the surgeons appointed and remunerated?—I would recommend that their appointment should be subject to the approval of a competent Medical Board at home, and that they should be paid by gratuities.

20. Is it not absolutely necessary that they should be in the interest rather of the Government than of the affreighters?—Most certainly; they should be officers in the interest of the Government, and in no way connected with the affreighters.

21. Then they should hold their appointments from the Government?—Yes, and their gratuities should be subject to the approval of the Board here, to whom they should be bound to communicate all they know of immigrants.

22. Being as at present appointed, it is the duty of the surgeons rather to withhold information from the Board than to come forward and expose any irregularity which may have taken place?—It has been proved to the Board that such is the case.

23. Have you known instances where young single females have come out without protection, and have been told off to protectors in harbour only, to insure payment of the bounties?—It is my impression that such a practice has been very general.

24. Have not the cases been numerous, in which the bounties have been withheld on young single females who have not come out under proper protection?—A great many bounties have been withheld on that account.

25. Will not this have the effect of checking the practice you have mentioned?—It will have a beneficial effect in checking it in future.

26. Do you think the withholding the bounties will have the effect of inducing the merchants to send out a better description of people; and are you of opinion that the amount paid by the Government for the importation of each immigrant is sufficient to enable the importers to send out such persons only as would be useful to the colony?—I certainly think such should be the effect; and from a calculation I have made, I am of opinion that the business might be conducted with advantage to the importers, with no other payment than that received from the Government, and yet with strict adherence to the regulations. In support of this opinion I will read an original charter-party, between —— ——, a holder of a bounty order, and —— ——, the owners of a suitable vessel for the conveyance of emigrants: "It is this day mutually agreed between Messrs. —— ——, owners of the ship ——, to be classed A. 1, at Lloyd's, and Messrs. —— ——, merchants. The said owners agree hereby to lay the vessels on the berth for Sydney, New South Wales, for cargo in the lower hold, and passengers in the 'tween decks, they undertaking to victual the passengers, and equip the vessel in every respect to the satisfaction of the said —— ——, and the Government emigration agent. The said —— —— engage to procure as many passengers as the 'tween-decks will accommodate according to law, and to provide all who go out under the bounty regulations with certificates, approved of by the Colonial Emigration Commissioners, or their agents, in England; and for others not going under the bounty regulations to pay the said owners 16*l.* net for each adult. The said owners agree to address the vessel to Messrs. ——, of Sydney, for collection of the bounties, under authority from the colonial government, and to pay them for recovering the same a commission of four per cent. on the amount, together with the usual commission on sales of surplus stores, or freight collected, and on disbursements. The said owners agree to pay Messrs. —— ——, on clearing out at the Custom-house, 20*s.* for every adult bounty passenger put on board as aforesaid, and 10*s.* for each young person under fifteen years of age, and 10 per cent. on cabin passage-money. The owners paying all expenses of advertisements, and the ship being in every respect sent out on owners account. The vessel to be ready to sail by the 25th of ——; the owners to detain the ship two or three days in the River, for the purpose of mustering the passengers, as may be required."

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27. Is there any other system you would propose by which a better class of immigrants could be obtained at a less expense to the public?—If agents at home were appointed by Government to select the Emigrants, and payment of the bounties were made to depend on the approval of the Board here of each person selected, I think a better class of people might be obtained on cheaper terms.

28. You mean that the selecting agents should be appointed by the Government?—I do.

29. How would you provide for the passage of the emigrants in such case?—If the Government would enter into contracts with shipowners, such as I have read to the Committee, they might charter vessels, and send them out fully as cheap as merchants.

30. Then the selecting agents should obtain the emigrants from the country districts and not, as at present, from the sea-ports?—Certainly, from the inland counties and agricultural districts.

31. Might not a better selection be obtained through the medium of the parochial clergy?—I think, perhaps, that if the parochial clergy were actively employed in the selection of emigrants, they might be disposed to send persons whom they might wish to get rid of, rather than persons useful to the colony.

32. Has the practice which has obtained, of the parish authorities paying a portion of the bounty to the agents, been beneficial or otherwise?—I think that any payments to the agents other than the legitimate bounties tend to the introduction of persons whom the parish authorities, or others, are glad to get rid of, and to prevent the introduction of those of a more suitable description.

33. These are not the parties who would be most beneficial to the colony?—No.

34. Has not the practice of requiring certain sums of money from the emigrants themselves been instrumental in introducing a superior class of persons, who, on arrival here, would be more likely to employ labour than to engage as labourers themselves?—It has.

35. Have the masters in command of immigrant ships been generally of suitable character?—The Scotch and Liverpool ships have been the worst commanded. The masters have not been at all fitted for the charge of immigrant ships during a long voyage. I think it of great importance that the master of an immigrant ship should be of a superior class, and one who would co-operate with the surgeon. I think also, that the mate should be competent to take charge of the ship, in case of any accident to or illness of the master, which has generally not been the case.

36. Would you say that the ships have been well conducted?—Yes, the generality have been so.

37. Do you think that the gratuities to the master and officers have had the desired effect?—I do.

38. They have rather tended to induce them to be more attentive?—Certainly.

39. If immigration were in the hands of the Government, do you not think it would insure a certain supply of labour arriving in the colony at the seasons when it would be most required, and also insure a better description of people?—Under a Government system the supply would be more regular, and the conduct of the ships better.

40. Have you had any reason to believe that the certificates furnished by the parties have been falsified?—A great number have been proved to the Board to be false.

41. Have the Board had direct evidence of that?—I think they have.

42. Do you know what is the course with respect to these certificates, after they are signed by the Government agents?—They are sent, I believe, to the bounty agents.

43. Would it not be better if they were sent direct to the local government here?—Certainly.

44. Has the system of selling spirits on board ships to the emigrants been carried to any extent?—I think the sale of spirits and wines has been encouraged, as an addition to the profits of the importers.

45. For whose benefit have the sales been made?—Generally for the benefit either of the master or the owners.

46. Can you give an instance?—Several instances have come under the notice of the Board.

47. Have you any means of knowing what the present demand for labour is?—I have not.

48. Do you think, from your own observation, that there has been an excess of supply during the last 18 months?—I think that there may have been an excess, in so far as that the whole did not find immediate employment, although a demand existed for them in the colony.

49. If they had been of suitable callings they would all have been employed?—Yes.

50. Are there many now out of employment, and are they useful people?—I do not think that there are any useful men now out of employment.

51. Have the rates of wages much diminished?—I have not known shepherds engaged for less than 18*l.*, whilst they are generally engaged at from 20*l.* to 25*l.* with rations.

52. This

52. This is as much as the colonists can afford to give?—Quite as much.

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53. Then, but for the very copious supply which arrived within the last 12 months, wages would have been so very exorbitant as to have caused great distress amongst the employers?—Before the supply arrived wages were at an exorbitant rate; I myself had been paying 50*l.* to a shepherd, in order to save my sheep.

H. H. Browne, Esq. J. P.

54. That must have entailed an absolute loss on you?—I considered it much too high, but had no alternative.

27th May 1842.

55. The importation of labour has been attended with very great advantage to the colony?—It has been attended with inestimable advantage.

Friday, 27th May 1842.

WILLIAM HARVIE CHRISTIE, Esq., J. P., a Member of the Immigration Board, called in, and examined.

1. How long have you been a member of the Immigration Board?—Since January 1841.

W. H. Christie, Esq. J. P.

2. In that capacity you visit the immigrant ships, for the purpose of examining the bounty immigrants?—Yes.

3. Have you attended pretty regularly?—Yes.

4. According to your observation, have the immigrants been generally of a useful class?—I think they have deteriorated lately.

5. From what cause?—I think that the importers have been less careful in their selection, in Liverpool particularly; and that a very bad description of people, and many prostitutes, have been shipped in consequence of the employment of a lower description of agents.

6. Have not the cases you allude to been detected by the Immigration Board, and the bounty withheld in consequence?—Very generally, but not in all cases; many escape detection from an indisposition on the part of the immigrants to make complaints.

7. Then, notwithstanding the vigilance of the Board, you think ineligible parties have been passed for bounty without detection?—I think so.

8. Has not the bounty been withheld on a considerable number of young women, who were not brought out under proper protection?—Yes, on a great many.

9. Do you consider these cases as likely to cause stricter adherence to the regulations in future, so as to ensure a better description of people?—Decidedly; but I think the most efficient check would be to appoint naval surgeons to take charge of the immigrants.

10. Have not the gratuities to the surgeons superintendent, established by the regulations, been attended with the good effects anticipated from them?—I think the gratuities have not had the effect of securing a better class of surgeons, and that they have frequently been turned to the profit of the shippers only.

11.—Then the gratuities have been virtually merely an addition to the bounties?—All affreighters may not have made this the case, but I am aware that some have done so.

12. Have the gratuities to the officers been attended with better results?—I think that the gratuities to the masters and other officers have have a good effect.

13. Do you think that, under what is called the bounty system, the most useful and moral class of immigrants is likely to be obtained?—I think not, as at present constituted.

14. Is it conducted as a mercantile speculation, so as to afford a profit to the parties engaged in it, without reference to the interests of the colony?—I am of that opinion.

15. Is the result of this, that the emigrants are selected from seaport towns, rather than from the country parts likely to afford the description of people required by the colony?—I think so.

16. Is there any other system that you could propose, by which a better class of immigrants might be obtained at the same cost to the colony?—I think that the appointment of naval surgeons to the emigrant ships, with the power of rejecting ineligible persons, would be attended with a beneficial result to the colony; and I consider that the selecting agents should be persons of established character.

17. How would you, in case the selecting agents were appointed by Government, provide for the passage of the emigrants?—I am not prepared to say that the affreighters should not appoint their own selecting agents; but in every instance the appointment should be confirmed by Government, and the agents should be subject to dismissal on frauds being detected.

18. Do you not think that ships could be obtained for the conveyance of emigrants, upon equally advantageous terms, if chartered by the Government?—I think that ships might be chartered by Government upon as advantageous terms, but individual enterprise has effected much towards inducing emigration.

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19. Have there been many cases of complaint investigated by the Immigration Board?—Yes, several.

20. Of what nature?—Chiefly immorality and want of order.

21. Have those investigations led to the stoppage of the bounties or gratuities?—The gratuities have been refused to the surgeons and officers, and bounties have been stopped, according to the specific case.

22. Do the cases you allude to form rather the exception than the rule?—In almost every investigation the complaints brought forward have been substantiated, and I have very little doubt that there have been many cases of complaint that have never come under the notice of the Board.

23. Does the proportion of bad ships increase?—Decidedly so.

24. Do you think it essential that the surgeons superintendent should be in the interest of the public, and not in that of the affreighter?—The surgeon should be in the interest of the public; at present it is his interest to pass and admit every person, whether eligible or not.

25. Are you enabled to state the present demand for labour?—I am not; but, having been lately up the country, I am enabled to say, that though wages are reduced there is still a demand for labour.

26. Have wages been reduced below an adequate remuneration to the immigrant?—No; wages are still remunerative, being from 16*l.* to 18*l.* per annum.

27. Unless a copious supply of immigrants had been obtained during the last 12 months, would much inconvenience have been experienced by the colonists in obtaining labour at a price which they could afford to pay for it?—Yes, the very greatest inconvenience. The flockholders would have been obliged to destroy their lambs, and the harvest could not have been got in.

28. Are you aware whether there are many immigrants at present unemployed?—I believe not many.

29. Are there any useful people remaining unemployed?—I think that every useful man in the country can now find employment at remunerating wages.

Wednesday, 8th June 1842.

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS MILES, Esq., J. P., Superintendent of Police, called in, and examined.

W. A. Miles, Esq. J. P.

1. You are a member of the Immigration Board?—I am.

2. How long have you been so?—Since September last.

3. In your capacity of superintendent of police, have you become acquainted with the general condition of the working classes, in the town of Sydney?—During the short time I have been in the colony I have endeavoured, as much as my duties would allow me, to obtain a knowledge of the working classes.

4. Will you have the goodness to afford the Committee such information as you possess, as to the existing demand for labour in the town?—At present the demand for labour is not so brisk as it has been, owing, not so much to the imported masses of people, as to recent monetary depression. By a return of wages from 1830 to the present period, which, together with a return of the prices of rent, provisions, and clothing, during the same period, I will read to the committee. I find that since 1839 the aggregate of wages paid to 21 different classes of working tradespeople has not decreased. In some few trades there has been a steady increase; in others, a slight depression; but in all, a great increase since 1830. The depression is among those classes requiring little skill in the trade or calling, and to which those of lazy dispositions, or who are fit for nothing else, may occasionally turn to seek employment, in order to meet the wants of the day; such as lumpers, day labourers, sawyers, plasterers, and common bricklayers. The wages of these classes will be subject to fluctuations, but there are some which will not be so easily disturbed in the rates of wages.

RETURN of WEEKLY WAGES or WEEKLY EARNINGS, without Board and Lodging (unless otherwise expressed), of various Trades or Callings in SYDNEY, in the Years 1830, 1835, 1836, 1839, 1840, 1841, and 1842, together with Remarks on various of the Trades.

Years	TRADES OR CALLINGS.																							
	Bakers, with board, &c.	Bootmakers.	Bricklayers.	Brickmakers.	Bakers, with board, &c.	Cabinetmakers.	Carpenters.	Coopers.	Gardeners (labouring).	Labourers.	Millers.	Millwrights.	Plasterers.	Quarrymen.	Saddlers.	Sawyers.	Shoemakers.	Stonemasons.	Tailors.	Tanners.
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
1830	0 15	2 0	1 19	1 7	0 15	- -	1 19	2 4	1 4	0 18	1 15	2 2	1 19	1 10	1 5	3 0	1 10	2 0	2 0	1 15
1835	0 15	2 0	1 19	1 7	0 18	2 2	1 19	2 8	1 8	0 18	1 15	2 2	1 19	1 10	1 5	3 0	1 10	2 0	2 0	1 15
1836	1 0	2 5	2 2	2 0	0 18	2 0	1 19	2 8	1 8	1 1	1 15	2 5	1 19	1 10	1 10	3 0	1 10	2 5	2 5	1 16
1839	1 5	2 5	2 2	2 13	0 18	2 2	1 19	2 2	1 8	1 4	2 0	2 8	1 19	1 16	2 0	6 5	1 10	2 8	2 5	2 0
1840	1 5	2 10	2 2	3 6	1 0	2 5	2 5	2 2	1 8	1 10	2 0	2 14	2 11	1 19	1 5	6 5	1 15	2 14	2 8	2 2
1841	1 5	2 10	2 11	3 6	1 5	2 2	2 11	2 8	1 8	1 10	2 0	2 14	2 11	2 2	1 5	4 15	1 15	2 14	2 10	2 0
1842	1 10	2 10	2 8	3 0	1 5	2 2	2 5	2 8	1 2	1 4	2 0	2 14	2 8	2 2	1 5	3 10	1 15	2 14	2 10	1 15

Sydney, 8th June 1842.

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS MILES, J. P.,
Superintendent of Police.

REMARKS CONCERNING VARIOUS TRADES.

REMARKS.	INFORMANT.
Bakers.—Plenty of inferior men; good hands can always get employment.	Mr. Smith, Hunter-street.
Boot and Shoemakers.—Every man is employed; wages more likely to rise than fall.	Mr. Hamilton, Hunter-street.
Bricklayers, Carpenters, and Plasterers.—Many out of work since commencement of last year, but not like to continue so long.	Mr. Cowlishaw.
Butchers.—Plenty of Employment.	Mr. Charles Smith.
Cabinetmakers.—Employment has been difficult to obtain since December 1841.	Mr. Hunt, Jamison-street.
Carpenters.—*See* Bricklayers.	—
Coopers.—Trade dull, and some hands out of employment.	Mr. John Hall, Cooper.
Gardeners.—Since 1840 informant has numerous applications for employment; sometimes six or seven of a week.	Mr. Bird, Market-street.
Millers.—Only a few out of employment; some labourers get employed as millers, and undersell the more experienced workmen.	Mr. Blair, Sussex-street.
Millwrights.—It is said that increase of hands and decrease of trade render employment scarce.	Mr. Struth, engineer.
Plasterers.—*See* Bricklayers.	—
Quarrymen.—Immigrants get work for a short time in a quarry, then engage themselves as quarrymen; trade dull, said to be overstocked with labour.	Mr. John Harris.

Saddlers.—

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REMARKS.	INFORMANT.
Saddlers.—Overstocked with labour, in consequence of English goods; several good working men have gone into service.	Mr. Giblett, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Griffiths.
Shoemakers.—*See* Bootmakers.	—
Tailors.—In consequence of the depression of the times many journeymen are out of work.	Mr. John Coyle, George-street.
Tinsmiths.—Trade improving fast; dull however since 1840; if it continue favourable for two months all hands will be employed.	Mr. F. Robinson, George-street.

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WILLIAM AUGUSTUS MILES, J. P.,
Superintendent of Police.

RETURN of the Prices of RENT, PROVISIONS, and CLOTHING, in the Years 1830, 1833, 1836, 1839, 1840, 1841, and 1842.

YEARS.	RENT.	PROVISIONS.								
	Two Rooms per Week.	Wheat per Bushel.	Fine Flour per lb.	Second Flour per lb.	Ration Flour per lb.	Beef and Mutton per lb.	Tea per lb.	Sugar per lb.	Tobacco per lb.	Soap per lb.
	s. d.	*£ s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1830 - -	4 0	0 10 0	0 5	0 4½	0 4	0 1½	2 6	0 3½	3 3	0 4½
1833 - -	4 0	0 6 0	0 4	0 3½	0 3	0 1½	2 6	0 3½	3 3	0 4½
1836 - -	5 0	1 4	0 2	0 1½	0 1	0 1½	2 6	0 3½	3 3	0 4½
1839 - -	6 0	2 10 0	0 3	0 2½	0 2	0 3	2 6	0 3½	3 3	0 4½
1840 - -	7 0	0 6 6	0 3	0 2½	0 2	0 4½	2 6	0 3½	3 3	0 4½
1841 - -	8 0	0 5 6	0 2½	0 2	0 1½	0 4½	2 6	0 3½	3 3	0 4½
1842 - -	10 0	0 5 6	0 2½	0 2	0 1½	0 3½	2 6	0 3½	3 3	0 4½

YEARS.	CLOTHING.							
	Fustian Jackets.	Fustian Trowsers.	Shepherds Coats.	Shirts per dozen.	Lace Boots per pair.	Thick Shoes per pair.	Blankets per pair.	Sheeting per yard.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*£ s. d.*	*£ s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*£ s. d.*	*s. d.*
1830 - -	9 0	9 0	1 10 0	1 16 0	12 0	8 0	1 0 0	1 1
1833 - -	9 0	9 0	1 10 0	1 16 0	12 0	8 0	1 0 0	1 1
1836 - -	8 0	8 0	1 8 0	1 16 0	12 0	8 0	1 0 0	1 1
1839 - -	7 6	7 6	1 6 0	1 16 0	11 0	8 0	0 19 0	0 11
1840 - -	7 6	7 6	1 4 0	1 4 0	10 0	8 0	0 19 0	0 9
1841 - -	7 0	7 0	1 0 0	0 18 0	9 0	7 0	0 18 0	0 8
1842 - -	7 0	7 0	0 18 0	0 18 0	8 0	7 0	0 16 0	0 7

Sydney, 8th June 1842.

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS MILES, J. P.,
Superintendent of Police.

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5. What description of labourers do you allude to as being less likely to be disturbed?—I allude to those men whose trade requires a greater degree of skill, and who, by reason of a higher rate of wages, can be esteemed among the employers of labour as good and respectable men, such as coopers, millwrights, tailors, shoemakers or stonemasons, who all earn respectable wages. I might include saddlers, but many of these working tradespeople are out of employment, not on account of an excess of labour, but on account of an excess of imported saddlery from England. The returns, which I have read to the Committee, will show the relative conditions of wages, and the demand for labour in many of the trades.

6. Do you not think that the decrease you have mentioned in the rates of wages is to be attributed, in a great degree, to the indisposition of parties to leave the town?—In many cases it is so. I have now under my surveillance upwards of 400 immigrants who employ themselves in the town; many as labourers, &c. These people live in small houses, renting small rooms, adopting, in this hot country, the Irish plan of herding together; so common, and which I have frequently witnessed in the low crowded cities of Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol and London. There a man hires a room, which he sub-lets to different families, till he contrives to live rent free.

7. Do you mean to say that this custom is confined to the Irish people here?—Perhaps not confined exclusively to the Irish people here. My inspectors have given me some returns relative to immigrants, which I beg to hand in. [*Put in.*]

8. The returns which you have handed in, and which purport to be from the different inspectors of police in the town of Sydney, show that there is an increase of more than 400 immigrants lingering in this district within the last nine months; do you mean that any greater number are out of employment here than might be expected, or than is usual in places having an equal population?—Certainly not.

9. Have you means of knowing whether those who are disengaged are such as would be likely to prove useful if taken into service?—Yes, if they are not too lazy. Some immigrants prefer to remain in Sydney, either on account of being near their relatives, whom they came out to join, or else on account of their lazy disposition, preferring chance employment to the harder labours of the bush; they are the dregs, the sediment of importation. Two men, one married to the sister of the other, arrived in the ship Palestine; they went into service for a month, but left, saying to a fellow servant, that they never intended to do any work, as they could do very well by conjuring; and these people are now performing feats of "hocus pocus." I have observed with regret that many able-bodied men prefer the lazy occupations of selling fruit, or hawking about the streets; and as I consider their labour could be better employed both to themselves and the colony, I have desired the constabulary not to allow them to put their baskets on the pavement, and I intend to enforce the penalty for hawking without a license.

10. Do you think that the number of useless and unemployed persons of the labouring class in Sydney exceeds that of any other places?—Certainly not; it would be difficult to find a spot where greater acuteness and energy prevail than in Sydney.

11. Then you do not think that there is any marked excess beyond what might be expected?—I do not.

12. Do you infer from the returns furnished by the inspectors of your force that there is an excess of labour in the market?—Decidedly not; there is no excess, but merely a balance in the supply and demand in Sydney; I am led to conclude that labour must be less in demand than heretofore, because I find robberies are increasing; as it becomes difficult to obtain the same amount of money which has been hitherto easily obtained, so in proportion will crime increase. As long as wages were high it was a man's interest to be honest, though he may have heretofore been a thief; deprive him of this inducement, by a reduction of wages, so that he cannot honestly indulge in any of his propensities, and it is more than probable that he will thieve again to make up the deficiency of wages. This is now partly the case in Sydney.

13. By what class of persons do you think these robberies are committed?—They are frequently committed or planned by men, who, though now free, have been convicts, or by assigned servants, but more especially by men who have returned from Norfolk Island or other penal settlements; these men are lost and debased by the severest punishment, as well as corrupted by the foulest contamination; there is a sad fellowship of crime and a recklessness in their character. There are a few exceptions, but, in general, those men who have been to Norfolk Island are the blots of the population. With regard to the convict admixture with the immigrants, I cannot too strongly advert to the injury caused by contamination. It may be said that the convict population is decaying, but the germs of crime are deeply implanted. The result of the intercourse of convicts with immigrants is to render them cautious, insolent and suspicious, if not worse.

14. With reference to the last question, the Committee observe that the inspectors, in their Reports, state they are not aware that there is any increase of thieving; can you explain this?—The Report only relates to recent immigrants.

15. Are the persons you allude to as the planners of robberies the prisoners who have been sent up from Norfolk Island under the provisions of the Commutation Act?—I am endeavouring to ascertain this point, but at present I cannot give a definitive answer. I do not believe we have any men from Norfolk Island who have been under the new discipline of Captain Maconochie.

16. Does it appear from this circumstance that the effect of immigration has been to throw out of employment persons of bad habits and character?—It has; and the "old hands," as they are termed, cordially hate the immigrants on that account.

17. As, then, the number of immigrants unemployed has not exceeded what you consider

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the ordinary average among the labouring classes, and as they are generally well-conducted persons, does your experience lead you to conclude, either that immigration has been excessive, or that there has been a preponderating number of immigrants of bad character?—I do not consider immigration to have been excessive, nor do I consider the character of the people to have been preponderatingly bad, although they appeared to lack the energy and aptitude so requisite for this colony. I have noticed a great stupidity in many of the immigrants, and some of them I consider to be as bad as any convict; the females have been badly selected, and picked up at random, I should say, to make the required number; it has, however, been a matter of astonishment to me to observe how rapidly labour has been absorbed.

18. Have you had means, as a member of the Immigration Board, of ascertaining whether the immigrants generally come fairly within the descriptions required by the regulations?—I have not; nor indeed have I turned my attention to the subject; my attention and my efforts have been to ascertain the demand for labour and prices of wages in the districts, so that the immigrant may be informed on landing what are the wages, and in what district he can find a market for his industry. I have prepared, and beg to hand in, a series of tables from information afforded me by various magistrates; and although in a few cases the detail may not be so minute as it is desirable it should be, yet as a mass, I think it may prove a useful document. There are many persons of respectable connexions at home, driven to great distress in Sydney at this time; men who have exhausted the few score of pounds they may have brought to this "El Dorado," and who are fit for nothing except a clerkship. I have had repeated applications from such persons to be admitted in the police. [*Tables put in.*]

19. Taking the town of Sydney generally, do you think it can be fairly said that there is a want of employment?—Labourers' wages have decreased; and as I before observed, I think the supply and demand in the labour market are nearly balanced in the town of Sydney.

20. Have you held any appointments in England, which have enabled you to become acquainted with the labouring classes?—I have. I was one of the Assistant Commissioners of Inquiry on the Poor Law, on the Rural Police, on the Hand-loom Weavers, and I was a Commissioner of Public Charities; in all of which my inquiries were directed to the condition of the working classes.

21. Did you receive the impression, so far as you had been brought into contact with the labouring classes, that the means of occupation were generally sufficient for the support of the population?—In the agricultural districts in England, I do not consider labour to be redundant in a degree to meet the wants of this colony. In the manufacturing districts, where the services of the artisan are displaced by the introduction of machinery, there is great privation and distress; and these persons, by changing their occupations, would be useful in the colony.

22. Your opinion then is, generally speaking, that agricultural labourers are earning sufficient wages, and therefore feel a repugnance to emigrate?—Generally speaking, the agricultural labourer earns such wages that he is not induced to overcome the repugnance to emigrate; he is a steady settled character, and would rather linger in his native parish than seek the adventure of a distant colony. The class of persons likely to come out in numbers are the hand-loom weavers. In my Report to the House of Commons upon the subject of emigration, as a means of relief to the hand-loom weavers, I state, p. 527—

> "There is a great desire for emigration at this time (1839) among the working classes in Gloucestershire; but unfortunately for the weavers they are not a class of persons in request; yet there are many of them fully capable of following rural occupations, and would prove useful members in a colony."

The opinion I entertained in England has been confirmed by my residence here; and I quote a letter, which I published in my Report to the House of Commons, from a weaver who had emigrated here. He dates from Paramatta, June 1838, and writes to the clergyman of his parish of Kingswood,—

> "I have 40*l.* a year, with house, food and firing. Provisions are much cheaper than at home; clothing somewhat dearer. The privileges held out to immigrants are extremely good. We were free the moment we landed, and were provided with a comfortable house and victuals at no expense, until we got situations; but the greatest number were engaged the first day. A mechanic can earn from 35*s.* to 50*s.* a week; a labouring man gets 25*s.* a week. If any persons are desirous of emigrating to New South Wales, I would recommend them to come out immediately, for with industry people can do extremely well, and maintain their families respectably. They will find employment directly, and good wages for their labour; they will soon be masters of many pounds; and if we choose to return to England, we can save money enough in two years to pay our passage back.

The Rev. W. Cockin, of Hampton, county Gloucester, in reference to the condition of the weaver, states—

> "The distress of the entire district is beyond the conception of any one who has not witnessed it. It was not mere want, but actual starvation, that was endured last winter (1838)."

I enquired into the condition of 250 weavers' families, and found the average to be about five in each family, and that their entire earnings amounted to 10*s.* a week, out of which they had to pay—

	s.	*d.*
Rent - - - - - - -	1	8½
Rates - - - - - - -	0	1½
Fuel, soap and candles - - - -	1	7½

Leaving only 6*s.* 6½*d.* a week to feed and clothe the family of five persons.

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23. The weavers would make good shepherds, but would they, accustomed as they have been to the atmosphere of towns, be willing to go into the interior?—Yes, and very glad of the change; I consider that they would make excellent shepherds. The occupation of a weaver at his loom is silent and sedentary, and the loneliness of the bush would be less irksome to him than it would be to many other callings. The weavers in Yorkshire, and at Bisley, and Chalford in Gloucestershire, have been employed weaving a peculiar cloth for the China market, called "stripe cloth," and by the introduction of these labourers, this colony may ultimately become exporters of cloth to China. I beg leave to quote from my Report a few remarks upon the general character of the hand-loom weavers:

> "Relative to the general habits of the weavers, as to diligence, providence, frugality, honesty, and temperance, they rank in common with their fellow workmen. Low wages tend to destroy the energy requisite for active diligence; the earnings of the out-door weaver are too low to afford a surplus for provident savings, therefore frugality and temperance are the results of necessity. It might be presumed, that persons in so low a condition would sink into a low moral state; the weavers, however, are not a class addicted to daring crime or hardened theft; their pilferings are confined to vegetables, or to obtain a little wood for firing, and to minor offences, emanating from extreme distress; they commit no offences in order to obtain the means of riot or debauchery, and in many cases, hunger is the sole and only cause."

In further reference to the weavers, I found, that in the prison at Horsley 789 persons had been confined in the term of two years, and that only 27 of that number had been weavers, 11 of whom had deserted their families through distress, six for assault, and four only for stealing; the rest for vagrancy and minor offences.

24. What means do you conceive it would be proper to employ to encourage the emigration from England of a proper class of persons?—By communicating with the Poor Law Commissioners, who would, I am sure, afford every facility in promoting the emigration of a useful class of persons.

25. Would that be the only means you would recommend?—I should especially recommend a careful selection of the emigrants, by an agent to be named by the local government, but paid for his services by the colony; he should be a person known to the colonists, and have a thorough knowledge of the working classes, both here and at home.

26. Might not the applying to the Poor Law Commissioners expose the colony to the danger of obtaining the services of only the least effective, whom it might be thought desirable in England to get rid of?—The appointment of an agent, as I have suggested, would partly prevent this; some check would be absolutely essential, or the colony would be made a poor-house for England.

27. Would you propose that the agent so appointed should have a positive veto upon those persons who might be proposed?—Most decidedly; otherwise his appointment would be stultified and nugatory.

28. Is it to be expected that an individual holding an appointment on these terms would be of sufficient standing, or possess sufficient firmness, to oppose such influence as might be used to get inefficient persons sent out?—That depends upon two things—the man you choose, and the salary he receives.

29. Do you suppose, then, that any one individual holding such an office could undertake to execute those powers to the full extent necessary for the whole emigration required, supposing it to amount to 10,000 persons per annum?—A man might inspect and pass 50 persons per diem, and he would have 19 weeks out of the year for other purposes, such as travelling, &c.

30. Are you aware that the Land and Emigration Commissioners have already agents employed whose duty it is to inspect the intending emigrants?—Yes; at the ports, I believe.

31. You appear to be acquainted with the county of Gloucester; have you perused the Return now before the Committee, which sets forth the number of persons who emigrated from that county?—I have; and the number is rather more than 200.

32. Do you consider this the fair number that might have been expected, if due diligence had been used?—Probably it is; but if machinery has been more introduced since I held my commission, there will be an unemployed population.

33. Have you a general acquaintance with the inland counties of England?—Yes, I know a little of Cambridge.

34. You are acquainted with Cambridge, you say?—I am.

35. It appears from the Return that the number from Cambridge was 23; do you think that a fair number?—I do, and for this reason—the population are all employed, and at fair wages, in cultivating low land which has been recently drained.

36. Do you conceive, then, there is disposition to emigrate from Cambridge?—There might be from towns and districts of the higher land of that county; but I should doubt it.

37. Are there any other counties in England from which you think it more practicable to obtain labour than Cambridge?—Yes; from Lancashire, Warwickshire, and from Yorkshire.

38. Your expectations then, it would appear, are principally fixed on the manufacturing districts?—Yes, because I think in those districts you will find a greater redundance of population; and if it be objected that they have lived in towns, necessity will force them to a change of habit and occupation.

39. What degree of assistance do you think it possible to obtain from the Poor Law Commissioners, in aid of emigration?—For information, every assistance; for monetary assistance, I cannot say; but I remember having proposed some time ago in England, that the parishes should pay a portion of emigration charges; and now that I touch upon that point, I should wish

NEW SOUTH WALES.

W. A. Miles, Esq. J. P.

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wish to observe, that as all aid from the Boards of Guardians is lent, and recoverable when the man gets work, (it is a fundamental principle of the new Poor Law,) so I think that the emigrant who comes out here should repay or refund a portion of his passage out of wages; there may be some serious difficulties in the way, but I am anxious to make the suggestion.

40. Are you not aware, that although there be no marked superabundance of labour in the agricultural districts, yet it often is the case, that the wages of the labouring classes are barely sufficient for mere subsistence?—I am aware of it, but an agricultural labourer is almost as a serf upon the soil, and is loth to leave his home. I find that the labourer, in the time of Edward III., could obtain in exchange for his labour just or nearly the same quantity of wheat as he can in the present day; and this is a class whose wages I find to have always been just sufficient, or little more than a mere subsistence.

41. Do you not think that many persons, whose means are so limited, might be induced to better their condition by emigrating to this colony?—I do not think the landed interest could spare the labour in large quantities; if restrictions as to age could be much extended, parents might come over with good sized children, and I think it would be advisable to offer inducements for transplanting the young shoots.

42. Do you consider that much advantage would arise from communication being opened with the parochial clergy in England, with a view to obtain a desirable class of emigrants?—I think the best persons would be the guardians of the parishes, assuming a check in the shape of an agent for the colony; the clergymen could render great assistance, and the agent should be in communication with them; I always applied to the clergy during my official investigations.

43. Do you not think that the influence of the clergy among the young people who would wish to marry, and cannot do so at home, might be useful?—I do.

44. Does not the reluctance of the peasantry to emigrate arise from their ignorance of this country, and some apprehension that they may be deceived by false representations?—The geographical knowledge of the English peasant seldom extends beyond his parish.

45. Have you any acquaintance with Scotland or Ireland?—I have not; but from information afforded me by my brother Commissioners, I think a large supply of labour might be had from the manufacturing towns of Scotland, Paisley and others; and I may also add, from Yorkshire.

46. Do you think a suitable class of persons could be obtained from the weavers of Manchester?—I think they might make good shepherds.

47. Do you think, generally speaking, that they would be persons of good character, and such as it would be desirable to introduce into the colony?—I do; because the poor weavers are a depressed and harmless set of men; I have seen them much emaciated.

48. Are they emaciated from distress or dissipation?—Some few perhaps from dissipation, but mostly from distress and confinement in small unhealthy rooms at their sedentary occupations; nevertheless, I think it a place from which much labour might be procured.

49. Might not their addiction to combination render them undesirable as emigrants?—All trades are given to combination, and in Sydney there is a great tendency to it; I am aware that combinations in Sydney have, since my arrival, subscribed to send newly-arrived immigrants to New Zealand, in order to keep up wages. I am also of opinion that statements emanate from these societies injurious to immigration.

50. Have you any documents which you would put in, and which you think would be serviceable?—I have compiled Returns in a tabular form, which relate to the state of labour, wages, food, and clothing in Sydney, and throughout the colony, and which I have already read to the Committee and laid upon the table; and I will now also hand in answers from the police magistrates of different districts, relative to labour. [*Put in.*]

51. As a member of the Immigration Board, can you offer any suggestion for the improvement of the present system of immigration—as to the selection of the immigrants, the conduct of the ships, or the appointment of the officers taking charge of them?—When I became a member of the Immigration Board, I suggested to Mr. Merewether the expediency of communicating throughout the districts, relative to the prices of provisions and clothing, as well as rates of wages, and the prospective demand for labour, in order that the newly-arrived immigrant might be furnished with the most accurate knowledge of the rates of wages, and where labour was in demand. I was induced to make this recommendation, because I saw that many immigrants had left England in expectation of much higher wages than the colony could afford, and that, for want of authentic information, they were loth to accept fair and reasonable tenders of engagement. To obviate this, I circulated, under sanction of his Excellency, a series of inquiries, from which I compiled the Returns and the remarks handed in; and although these tables may be useful, they are not so valuable as I could wish, owing to the desultory manner in which some of the information has been afforded me. I should further suggest, that the appointed agent should select due and fit persons to act as superintendents and surgeons of the ships; men of experience and of character, who have already acted in similar situations, might be selected. Surgeons of the navy might be found well fitted for the duties. I am induced to make these suggestions in consequence of my knowledge, that improper persons have come out in authority on board of emigrant ships; in one case, a notorious housebreaker and bank robber came here as a surgeon. Some of the surgeons who have come out in immigrant ships have been left destitute, and committed suicide; others have gone home as ship stewards. It is, therefore, desirable that respectable and responsible persons should be appointed to the important task of attending immigrants to the colony.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Thomas Icely, Esq.

9th June 1842.

Thursday, 9th June 1842.

THOMAS ICELY Esq. called in, and examined.

1. You are a proprietor of land and stock in the district of Bathurst?—I am.

2. Do you also hold stations beyond the boundaries?—I do.

3. Do you employ labour to a considerable extent?—I do; I employ from 100 to 120 working men, of whom about two-thirds are free; the others are bond; part of the latter are assigned to myself, and part to my partner, and the remainder have been transferred to me with estates which I have purchased from persons who had convicts assigned to them.

4. Have you had any difficulty in obtaining free labour lately, and at a reduced rate of wages?—I have not.

5. Will you state the average rate of wages you are now giving?—To shepherds I am now giving from 18*l.* to 20*l.* per annum.

6. What do you think is the average cost to you of each free man's rations?—I generally give a ration and a half between a man and his wife, the cost of which I would state to be about 6*s.* per week.

7. You have been absent from the colony; will you state for what period?—From the beginning of 1840 to the commencement of 1842.

8. Did you observe that any great difference had taken place in the circumstances of the colony between the periods of your departure and return?—A marked difference.

9. Will you state in what respect?—About the time of my departure from the colony, the demand for labour was much greater than the supply; and shepherds' wages were at least 50 per cent. higher than they are at present; indeed the difficulty of obtaining shepherds on any terms was very great.

10. Were your profits as great when you paid the higher rate of wages you have spoken of as they now are on the lower rate?—They were then remunerative, whilst there are not any profits at all now, even at the present lower rate of wages, in consequence of the absence of all demand for surplus stock.

11. You say your profits were remunerative when you left the colony; do you mean that at that time you could effect sales for actual cash, or did you give credit?—Sales could then be effected for actual money.

12. By what description of persons were purchases then generally made?—By settlers who had realised money, and also by persons who had embarked in the business of supplying the South Australian and other markets, which latter outlets for our surplus stock no longer exist.

13. Does the clip of wool pay the annual expenses incident on the management of the sheep? Yes, it does.

14. If there were a ready market for the surplus stock, would sheep farming be profitable now?—It would.

15. From your long residence in the colony, and extended experience, do you not think that in the present condition of the colony, considering the cheapness of land and the low price of stock, there is a very great inducement to capitalists to come here?—I do not consider the present minimum price of land cheap; but from the very low and easy rate at which stock can now be obtained no time could be better for capitalists to arrive.

16. What then, in your opinion, is the reason that capitalists do not come when they might so profitably invest their money?—This colony suffers greatly by the reports which are circulated at home of the distressed state of our money market, which induces a want of confidence on the part of the English capitalists, who will not emigrate hither in the present doubtful circumstances of the colony. Indeed I find that little, if any, of the money already in the colony is invested in the purchase of either land or stock.

17. Can you state any other circumstances which, in your opinion, have operated to prevent capitalists from coming to the colony?—Yes; I think the raising the minimum price of land has had that effect, as no person can profitably farm sheep on land purchased at the present price.

18. Would the reduction of the minimum price of land to its old standard, of 5*s.* per acre, have the effect of inducing capitalists to come to the colony?—I have no doubt it would.

19. Will you have the goodness to state what you consider to have been the effect of raising the minimum price of land from 5*s.* to 12*s.* an acre upon the land fund and the general interests of the colony?—I consider it has had the effect of totally annihilating the land fund, in consequence of its having prevented the capitalist from investing his capital in the purchase of land, and thereby deprived the settler of all opportunity of effecting sales of his surplus stock, and thus put it out of his power to purchase fresh land from Government; I was consulted by several capitalists when in England, who were desirous of embarking in the purchase of stock and land in this country, as to their prospects of profit if they purchased at the increased price of land, and my Report confirming the opinions they had themselves previously entertained, they were deterred from doing so; whereas, if the minimum price had been lower, they would have had no doubts on the subject; I feel satisfied that it has had the effect, not only in these cases, but generally, of preventing capitalists from emigrating.

20. Have you ever turned your attention to, and can you state what, in your own mind, should be fixed as the minimum price of land of fair average quality in this colony, so as to make the purchase of it profitable for grazing purposes?—I should say that 2*s.* 6*d.* per

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Thomas Icely, Esq.

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acre would be quite as much as the sheep farmer could afford to give for land, if he were confined to his purchased land; but I am of opinion that land of a better description would always find ready sale at a price proportioned to its quality.

21. How many acres of land does it take on an average to support one sheep?—About three acres.

22. Do you mean selected land, or land of average quality?—Land of average quality.

23. You are an extensive holder of purchased land?—I am; I hold upwards of 40,000 acres of purchased land.

24. Will you state what effect the change in the minimum price of land has had on the value of your own property?—Its effect has been to depreciate it so much in value, that it does not now pay expenses.

25. You have spoken of the diminished means of the settlers to purchase land; do you not think that labour being more expensive now than it was five years ago, is the chief cause of this decrease of means?—It has undoubtedly had some tendency to decrease the settlers' means.

26. You have stated your opinion, that the increase of the minimum price of land has prevented capital from being brought out to the colony; do you not think that if a loan had been effected for immigration purposes, at the time such a measure was recommended by the committee, it would have had the effect of retaining in the colony all the money that has since been expended in the importation of labourers, and of furnishing the colonists at the same time with an abundant supply of labour, and thus have enabled them to pay the higher price since demanded for land?—I certainly think that one of the causes of the present depression of the monetary affairs of the colony has been the immense sums sent out of the country for the introduction of labour; and I am satisfied, that had a loan been effected, much of the evil would have been prevented; if we could sell our surplus stock, as in former years, we should continue to purchase land, if it was to be obtained at a remunerative price, beyond which no prudent man will embark his capital, either in land or any other commodity.

27. But are you satisfied or prepared to show that the want of a market for your surplus stock is the consequence of the increase in the minimum price of land?—I am satisfied that such is the case.

28. When was the minimum price increased?—About three years and a half ago; the beginning of the year 1839.

29. Are you aware of the comparative sums of money which have been laid out upon land since the increase in the minimum price?—I have no knowledge of the comparative sums which have been received by Government under the old and new systems, but I believe that the present price has caused a very great reduction of the land fund, if indeed it has not totally annihilated it.

30. Supposing that to have been occasioned by the increase in the minimum price, ought it not to have immediately begun to show itself?—I think it did; from the commencement, applications for land, in the older settlements, became less frequent.

31. Taking the colony generally, and speaking of country lands, not of town allotments, are you aware that the money invested in land in 1838 amounted to 100,000*l.*?—I know the amount was very considerable.

32. That was about the time of the rise in the minimum price of land?—It was about that time, and before the effect of the rise had been felt.

33. When do you think the effect began to be felt?—I think, in the older settlements, immediately.

34. Are you aware that in 1839 upwards of 141,000*l.* was put in circulation by the price of country lands?—Yes; but the greater portion of those lands had been applied for at 5*s.* and had not been surveyed.

35. Was the effect, do you conceive, more felt in 1840?—In the latter part of 1840, the effects of the change began to be materially and practically felt.

36. Are you aware that in the year 1840 upwards of 198,000*l.* were invested in the purchase of country lands in the colony at large?—I am aware that a very large sum of money was so invested; the greater part by speculators at Port Phillip, and the recently opened country to the south.

37. Are you aware that in that year there were no country lands whatever sold for so low an average price as 12*s.*?—I am.

38. Do you think that if the sum of money invested in these purchases, and spent in the introduction of labour, had been retained in the colony, the rise in the price of land would seriously have affected the price of stock, and the general interests of the settlers?—I think it would have injuriously affected both, but the effect would certainly not have been so serious.

39. Are you aware that a very large proportion of these sums was laid out in 1839 and 1840?—I am.

40. Are you not also aware that the people knew that the price was about to be raised?—That was the general impression.

41. Do you not think that that knowledge induced persons to speculate in land with a view to profit by the anticipated rise?—The general impression was that the price of land would be raised throughout the colony.

42. Are you not also aware that a very large amount of capital was brought into the colony by the English Banks at that time, and that that also tended to induce speculation in land?—I am, and that the introduction of that capital afforded increased facilities to parties to raise money.

43. What

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43. What is the present state of the parties who so speculated?—Many of them are ruined.

44. Do you think that the raising the minimum price of land has had the effect of sustaining the value of your land at what you paid for it, or has it depressed it?—It has diminished the value of my land; I was offered 15*s.* per acre for my land when the minimum price was 5*s.*, but I could not now obtain that sum, although many thousands of pounds have since been expended on the property.

45. Do you not think that it is more probable now, than it was in 1839, that the minimum price will be raised to 20*s.*?—I do not think it probable, but should it be so, nothing can be more fatal to the welfare of this country.

Friday, 10th June 1842.

LAWRENCE V. DALHUNTY Esq. called in, and examined.

L. V. Dalhunty, Esq.

10th June 1842.

1. IN what part of the colony are you settled?—In the Wellington district.

2. As an owner of purchased land, or an occupier under a depasturing licence?—As an occupier under a depasturing licence.

3. Can you state to the Committee what you suppose to be the extent of the land you occupy?—I cannot, my stations are so unconnected.

4. Can you say what may be the area of your head station?—About 6,000 acres.

5. What description of stock have you there?—Principally sheep, with some few head of cattle.

6. What number of sheep might 6,000 acres be considered generally adequate to keep?—That depends principally on the seasons, and the description of the land; the seasons latterly have been very bad, but in ordinary seasons I might keep with advantage from about 1,800 to 2,000 sheep.

7. With cattle besides?—The run is scarcely of sufficient extent for depasturing cattle also.

8. Supposing you had a cattle station of the same extent, and adapted for cattle or horses, what number could you keep on it?—It would require about 8,000 acres for 1,000 head of cattle.

9. What do you consider ought to be the extent of a cattle station?—From 8,000 to 10,000 acres, provided the country was well watered, with a rich description of soil.

10. Would horses take as great an extent?—Horses are never kept in the same numbers, and would not consequently require such an extent.

11. Do you consider that the country is pretty nearly as fully occupied as it can be, or is there still room for other stations?—The occupied country is overstocked; many persons flocks, in consequence, have suffered from being too much confined.

12. What extent westward is this the case?—As far as Mount Harris.

13. What number of depasturing licences do you suppose are issued for the country you are now alluding to?—About 100 licences are issued for the district of Wellington.

14. Do you venture with much confidence to make improvements at your head station, considering that you have only a yearly licence?—I make only such rude improvements as are absolutely necessary.

15. Would you venture to make what might be considered permanent improvements, such as a house for a respectable family?—No, I should not.

16. Does this mode of life engender carelessness, idleness, and uncivilized habits among the population?—I think not; the people are generally industrious, and well-behaved. I attribute the regularity amongst them principally to the absence of public-houses, and the circumstance of most of my shepherds being married, and their wives acting as hut-keepers, a duty they perform well.

17. Would you conceive it desirable to improve the condition of your buildings, so as to make them suitable for more permanent purposes, if you had a longer licence?—I should think it very desirable.

18. Do you not think it would be desirable if some system were adopted which would secure to the settler the value of any improvements he might make on his station, and warrant the erection of such permanent buildings as would induce him to reside there?—I do, and should probably make a residence for myself on my own station, as I consider that an absentee cannot expect that his property could be so well managed as if he were on the spot.

19. Would it not be more advantageous to you, to obtain possession of the run itself, for a term of years, than to take out an annual licence?—It would be much more advantageous, because I should then hold my stations with some degree of certainty: my improvements would not be wrested from me, and I could carry on my operations with greater advantage, and might eventually become the purchaser of the land.

20. Suppose it were possible to purchase a small quantity, sufficient to secure the buildings, would you purchase?—I do not think I should be inclined to do so, unless I could purchase or secure to myself the whole of my stations; the one being useless without the other.

21. You at present hold your station under a yearly licence only; suppose you could obtain a small portion, by purchase, to secure your buildings, would you not do so rather than remain under your present uncertainty?—I should rather not purchase at all, than purchase only a small portion.

22. By purchase it might be more desirable to secure your station, for a certain number of years?—I do not see what benefit I should derive from it, except it would give me an additional security as to possession.

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23. By enabling you to lay out capital, would it not be beneficial?—It would be so if I should have the advantage of securing the original possession of all the stations I now occupy.

24. Suppose the purchase money were converted into a rent for a certain number of years?—An annual rent would be more beneficial.

25. Suppose a proposal of this kind were made, that by paying a certain annual rent for 14 years, at the termination of that period you should have the option, either to retain the land with the improvements, or to receive back the value of the improvements, would that not be advantageous?—I think that this would be a very fair arrangement, as it would not subject me to the loss of my outlay.

26. Do you conceive that a plan of that kind might induce stockholders to reside at their stations?—I think that such a plan might lead settlers to reside on their stations instead of committing them to the charge of overseers.

27. What security do you think you could give to the government that the rent would be paid, or what remedy would you give the government in case of nonpayment?—If a party fail to pay, the rent might be levied by distress, and his goods and chattels sold for the amount.

28. Do you think the government ought to insist on a certain sum being laid out in improvements, as a security that the rent would be paid?—I should think that a respectable person would voluntarily make such improvements as would afford adequate security to the government.

29. Then you do not think that a respectable man would have any objection to be required to lay out a moderate sum in improvements, by way of security to government?—I do not think any respectable man would see a ground of objection to his being required to make such improvements as would afford security to the government; in fact, to occupy the land with advantage he must of necessity do so.

30. Would the institution of such a system be beneficial to you even now?—I think it would.

31. What is the utmost sum per annum that a settler could afford to pay, to obtain a section or 640 acres of land on the terms mentioned?—If it were optional with him to select his station in one block, and he were, as proposed, to have a lease of it for 14 years, I think about 40*l.* per annum would be as much as a settler could afford to give in the district of Wellington.

32. Do you not conceive it would be a very difficult undertaking to fix upon the value of the improvements at the expiration of the 14 years?—A public auction would probably best show their value.

33. Do you not think a higher sum than you have mentioned could be afforded by individuals?—The district I allude to, being a grazing country, and not suited to agriculture, I do not think more could be given with reasonable advantage to the occupant.

34. Do you think the land you speak of is fit for any other purpose than grazing?—I do not think any grain could be grown on it with advantage, owing entirely to the prevalent want of rain; it is this dryness of the climate, however, which so peculiarly adapts the district to sheep farming.

35. Do you see any prospect of its ever being fit for any other purpose?—I do not.

36. At the present prices of sheep, wool, and land, what could the settlers afford to pay for licences to occupy land?—In the present state of the country, no man could afford to give more than he is at present required to pay for his licence and assessment.

37. All you want, then, is a tolerable certainty of occupying it, and that you might acquire, by merely paying the rent, and so securing to yourself your run and the improvements?—A settler could afford to pay rent for his station, in order to secure his occupancy, but he could not afford to buy an extent of land sufficient for grazing purposes.

38. But the district you allude to, being so well adapted for sheep, though not for agriculture, do you not think, that obtaining the certain occupation for 14 years of the extent of land you have named, besides the permanent tenure, if you wished it, of the selected section, would make the whole together worth more than 40*l.* per annum above what it is worth now?—I do not mean to say that it may not be worth more, but I think that in their present circumstances settlers could not afford to pay more.

39. Do you not think that this system might have a tendency to bring about a better state of things, by disposing persons to purchase stock when they had the means?—I do not think that persons would be willing to buy on any terms, unless they had cheap labour, and could rent land on easy terms.

40. What rate of wages would you consider you could afford to pay?—The wages should not be higher than 15*l.* per annum, which, with 15*l.* for rations, including tea, sugar, and tobacco, would be quite as high a sum as the settler can afford to give for one man's labour, under present circumstances.

41. Suppose the wages were 20*l.* per annum?—If the luxuries of tobacco, tea, and sugar were not allowed, 5*l.* could be added to the wages.

42. Do you think there would be any difficulty on the part of government to regain possession of the leased land, after the expiration of the 14 years?—I should think that the government would have no difficulty in recovering possession at the expiration of the 14 years.

43. Do you think this system better than the system of sale?—I think it is; sale under present circumstances being impossible.

44. Do you think no portion of land would be sold even at 5*s.* per acre?—I do not think that any person could afford to buy land even at that price, except for the purpose I have already stated—to secure the head station, with its improvements.

45. Would

45. Would such persons not probably also purchase the water frontage, so as to secure the runs permanently for their own use?—They might buy small portions for head stations, but they could not afford to buy the whole extent required at that or any other price; but I think they most probably would buy the water frontage, as they would thereby secure to themselves the occupancy of three or four other sections behind.

46. The government would, of course, be as capable of guarding against such an occurrence under that system, as any other that might be devised; it would not be peculiarly felt under that system?—I think it would be less so, because a settler would buy the land where he had already placed himself with advantage.

47. Do you think such a system would induce a desirable class of emigrants with capital to come out to this colony?—I do not think it would have that effect.

48. Would you not think it a preferable system at once to put up the lease for sale for the term of 14 years?—The land would in that case require survey, which could scarcely be done.

49. Do you think that 5*s.* per acre, paid down in cash, to be employed in bringing labour into the colony, would be more or less beneficial to the colony than the price of about 16*s.* an acre, to be paid during a period of 14 years, and to be annually laid out for the same purpose?—I should think that paying the 16*s.* per acre, and expending it yearly, according to the plan proposed, would be more beneficial to the colony, as it would immediately create a fund.

50. Then you think it would be better to expend in that manner 25 per cent. annually, than the 100 per cent. at once?—Yes.

51. To what do you attribute the present distress of the settlers?—To various causes, particularly the want of labour, and the absence of new settlers to purchase the surplus stock.

52. Do you find any want of labour yourself?—The want has latterly been less felt, and wages have in consequence been reduced from 25*l.* to 20*l.*

53. Do you consider that the present low rate of wages would continue if immigration were to cease?—The fall in wages is to be attributed wholly to a prospect of continued immigration, and if immigration were to cease, an immediate rise in wages would, I think, take place.

54. Have you found the immigrant labourers of a suitable class for shepherds?—I have, after they gain a little experience.

55. Have you found them as useful, upon an average, as the prisoners were?—I do not consider them so available as the prisoners, in consequence of their not being so much under control.

56. Have you not an advantage in being able to reimburse yourself for any loss that may be occasioned through their negligence or misconduct?—Their wages are so paltry, that they would not be sufficient to compensate proprietors for losses, and it is not to be supposed a servant would serve his master with advantage if his wages were withheld; the only remedy a proprietor would have would be to send them to gaol, in case the losses were occasioned by their neglect or carelessness.

57. Do you know what class of persons those immigrants have been at home?—Those that I have hired have generally been Highlanders, and persons accustomed to a country life; and therefore I have not experienced many losses.

58. Have you not found that the immigrant shepherds have been more careful than the convicts?—I have.

59. Have you ever had any immigrants from towns, and employed them as shepherds?—Yes.

60. Have they proved good shepherds?—After a little teaching they have made quite as good shepherds as any other class of men.

61. Then you have no doubt that from emigrant labourers, from the United Kingdom, a good class of persons can be obtained as shepherds?—Certainly; the immigrants can be made shepherds without any difficulty.

62. Do any practical means suggest themselves to you, for restoring the colony to its former prosperity?—Cheap labour and an influx of capital are the only means which occur to me as being likely to bring about that result.

63. Do you think the clip of wool at present pays for the management of the sheep?—It depends wholly upon the management; with good management, the wool at its present price would pay all expenses attendant on sheep farming, but would not pay for luxuries.

64. If there were a ready market for the surplus, would sheep-farming be a profitable pursuit?—Certainly; we only require to get rid of our surplus stock to make our business profitable.

65. Then do you think that if there were an abundant supply of labour, capitalists would be induced to invest their money in the purchase of your surplus stock?—Yes, a continued supply of labour would certainly be the most effectual restorative of the prosperity of the colony.

66. Are there any unemployed labourers in your district?—There are no persons constantly out of employment; as soon as a man is out of one service he can find employment in another.

67. To what cause do you principally attribute the non-investment of capital in the purchase of stock?—Principally to the want of labour; the rate of wages being still too high to induce capitalists to invest their money in stock.

68. What means would you propose to adopt, to reduce wages to what the settler could afford to pay?—I would propose that immigration should be carried on to an equal extent with that of the last two years.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

L. V. Dalhunty, Esq.

10th June 1842.

69. What do you consider has occasioned the cessation of immigration?—The want of funds.

70. To what do you attribute the want of funds?—The government not having been able to raise a land fund.

71. To what do you attribute the fact of the government not being able to raise a land fund?—One of the principal reasons is, the price the government have fixed for land being too high to allow persons to buy it for sheep farming.

72. What effect has the rise in the minimum price of land had on your own property?—It has had the effect of increasing the rate of wages, and thereby preventing the sale of surplus stock.

73. Then it has depreciated the value of your stock?—It has.

Tuesday, 14*th June* 1842.

LAURENCE V. DALHUNTY Esq. re-called, and further examined.

L. V. Dalhunty, Esq.

14th June 1842.

1. HAVE you ever known the price of grazing land and of stock so cheap in the colony as at this moment?—In the years 1828 and 1829 stock was as cheap or cheaper than it is now, owing to the depressed state of the colony during that period.

2. Have you ever considered the possibility of reducing the money wages of shepherds, or labourers generally, by giving them an interest in your sheep or stock establishments, or by commuting sheep or stock for money wages?—I have in several instances paid part of wages in cattle, instead of money; I have found that some of the immigrants, particularly the Scotch, prefer this mode of remuneration.

3. Would not that system, where the sale of cattle is so restricted as at present, afford great relief to the settlers?—It would be paying wages in property instead of money, and would so far be beneficial.

4. Would it not assist materially in removing the present difficulties of the settlers?—It would certainly, in some measure, assist in the removal of present difficulties.

5. If it were shown to your servants, that by persevering in such a system for a few years, they might themselves become capitalists, do you not think they would generally prefer that mode of payment to any other?—I think they are even now anxious to obtain property in this manner.

6. Are you aware of any objections which might be urged against this system?—There are objections to the system; the principal of which is, the confusion that would ensue were it generally acted on, between the master's stock and that of his servants, which would too often lead to the suspicion that the servant had appropriated his master's stock.

7. Might not a resident master, with due vigilance, guard against that?—Yes, provided the servant's stock was not permitted to increase on his station beyond a certain number.

8. Would you venture to allow your men to possess as many as 100 head of cattle; supposing them to be good men?—I should not like to do so; if I did, I should grant it as an indulgence only to trustworthy servants. It is only by management such as this that an estate can now be made to pay; but I would remark, that it is a plan which can only be pursued where the master resides on his property, and only by an experienced person.

9. Do you suppose when 20*l.* or 25*l.* wages are spoken of, that they are generally, or in many cases, paid in cattle?—No, I do not think that wages are generally paid in produce, although I am aware they are frequently so.

10. How is the price at which the cattle are estimated settled between you and your servants?—I generally put such a price on the cattle as the servants are ready to admit as reasonable, and will at once give for them.

Thursday, 16*th June* 1842.

GEORGE COX of Winboure, Penrith, Esq., called in, and examined.

George Cox, Esq.

16th June 1842.

1. Do you find the supply of labour more adequate to your wants at present than in former years?—I do.

2. Have wages in consequence been considerably reduced?—They have been reduced, but not very considerably; in respect to rations, however, we have been enabled to do away with tea and sugar in most cases, which has much reduced our expenses.

3. Do you consider that at the present rate of wages, the growth of wool is remunerative to the settler?—Taking the growth of wool and the sale of stock together, I think it hardly is; and therefore, the growth of wool alone certainly will not pay the expenditure; but with the wool, and a ready remunerating market for stock, sheep-farming would pay in most seasons. At present, I feel it impossible to pay my servants wages.

4. What is the state of the market for surplus stock at the present time?—There is no demand at a remunerating price. I have sheep now ready for sale, and which I must sell, but I have not yet been able to obtain an offer for them, although they are butchers meat.

5. Have you formed any calculation of what the actual consumption of sheep is in the colony, for the purposes of food?—I have not.

6. Is there any exportation of sheep at the present time to other colonies?—Not that I am aware of.

7. Do your remarks apply in an equal degree to horned cattle as well as sheep?—Yes, they do.

8. Will you inform the Committee to what you attribute the present depression?—It has principally arisen since the rise in the minimum price of land, which has placed it beyond the

the power of parties to purchase land with any prospect of profitably breeding stock; and to this circumstance I attribute the depression.

9. At what rate do you think it would answer a newly arrived colonist to purchase land for grazing purposes, supposing wool to remain at its present price?—Before determining this price, it would be necessary to ascertain the price of stock—the one being dependent on the other. At the present time, it would not answer an old colonist, much less a new comer, to purchase land even at 1*s.* per acre. There is no demand for stock, except amongst the butchers, and they have screwed down the breeders to the very lowest possible price. The returns from stock are at present so reduced to the grazier that they will produce no profit, but on the contrary, a loss. Breeders are obliged to kill female stock, and thus the profits are still further reduced. I have killed this season more than the increase of my female sheep.

10. In your opinion, would it effect the removal of those difficulties, if the price of land were again reduced?—I think it would, if it caused speculation in stock, and thus created for us a market for sheep, which at present we have not.

11. It would no doubt relieve the present holder of stock, in so far as it would put the purchaser in his position, but would it relieve the colony generally, by the creation of a permanent demand for the surplus stock?—I should think it would relieve the colony generally, inasmuch as it would increase the annual export of wool, by inducing capitalists to come to the colony and invest their capital in sheep.

12. Would not this increase the annual income of the colony, and give the old settlers the means of improving their establishments, and of employing additional labour?—If we had a permanent and fixed sale for stock, it would enable us to keep more servants, and carry on improvements which we cannot now do.

13. It is very evident that this would follow, if a permanent demand for sheep were created, but the question is, in what manner this change would be brought about by the reduction of the minimum price of land to 5*s.*?—I can only say, I suppose it would be brought about in this way; capitalists would come if it appeared to be to their advantage.

14. What was the state of the colony, with respect to the interests of the graziers, when the minimum price was 5*s.*?—The state of the graziers was then prosperous beyond measure.

15. Do you think that prosperity was owing entirely to the minimum price being at 5*s.*?—I conclude it was to a considerable extent; it induced parties to purchase stock; they felt that they could afford to purchase; and the sale of the stock of the old settlers enabled them to purchase land from the government, and thus increase the fund for the importation of labour, which to a young colony is most valuable if it can be employed.

16. Did not that enable and induce the old settlers to give a price for land far beyond 5*s.* per acre?—In some instances old settlers would give a higher price for land in particular situations rather than lose it, although they might feel assured that they were giving more than the actual value of that spot of land. I myself was induced to give as much as 13*s.* per acre, which I knew was much more than the land was worth; but I was unwilling that any other party should purchase it.

17. You think then, that the minimum price of 12*s.* per acre is beyond the present value of grazing land, and that this causes the newly arrived immigrant to hesitate as to the outlay of his capital in live stock?—I am quite sure it is; the old settlers themselves could not afford to give 12*s.* per acre for grazing land, and the newly arrived immigrant, perceiving this, refrains from the purchase of either land or stock, and puts out his capital at interest, as affording the most certain return.

18. Has not this the effect then of leaving the unsold land in the occupation of the old settlers without purchase?—It has, to a trifling extent; the unsold lands, adjoining the old settlers' purchased lands, are left for his benefit. He is not interfered with in any way, while he refrains from establishing stations on them.

19. So far then the raising the minimum price is an advantage to the old settlers?—So far it is, because no one will purchase at the increased rate; but this advantage is more than counterbalanced by its having prevented the purchase of such.

20. Can the old settler, under the existing depressed circumstances of the colony, avail himself of that advantage?—He cannot avail himself of it in the present extremely depressed state of the colony, and for this reason; finding he has no sale for his stock at a remunerating price, he cannot afford to hire servants to look after an increased number of sheep, and even if he could, he would not be able to sell any portion of that increased number; therefore waste lands within the boundaries are almost valueless to him in the present circumstances of the colony.

21. Was there more land sold at 5*s.* per acre than is actually occupied for grazing purposes; that is, is there any land purchased at that price now lying waste?—I do not know of any purchased land in my district which is unoccupied, and I know of none which is allowed to lie waste; I have not enough of land for my stock.

22. Is that the case generally with the settlers, even the large purchasers of land?—I do not think there is an individual in the colony who has purchased land enough to graze his stock upon.

23. If you had a market for your surplus stock, would you purchase land at the present price?—If I had sale for my surplus stock, and land was at a reasonably remunerating price, I should purchase every year.

24. Are you a purchaser to a considerable extent at present?—I have purchased about 16,000 acres.

25. Is that land fit for any other purpose than grazing?—Some is, but generally speaking it is only suited for grazing.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

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26. What proportion of it may be fit for agricultural purposes?—I can hardly say; a great deal might be fit for agriculture, but from want of a market for the produce, or its great distance from a market, it would be of no use to put it under cultivation.

27. Does the climate in the district you allude to admit of agricultural pursuits?—I think the climate is favourable to the growth of wheat; we suffer from drought, but the crops are heavy, and the wheat keeps well; we have found that it has kept for two years perfectly well.

28. Do you consider the value of your land depreciated lately, as well as your stock?—In the present depressed state of the colony, I do not think that there would be a purchaser for grazing land at all, if it was put up in any quantity.

29. To what do you attribute this depreciation in the value of your land?—I attribute it to the minimum price of land being raised by government to more than the real value of the land.

30. Then you do not think the keeping up the government minimum price of land has had the effect of keeping up the value of land generally in the colony?—I think not, but rather the reverse; it certainly appears that ever since the raising of the minimum price by government, the sale of land for grazing purposes has come to an end.

31. Do you include the land at Port Phillip in your observations?—I speak in reference only to lands in this part of the colony, and such as are required for grazing purposes, not to lands in the district of Port Phillip.

32. The value of your property then generally has depreciated, and you are thereby deprived of that means of engaging labour, which you have been in the habit of employing?—Such is the case; and I am reducing my establishment every day, and must continue to do so. I have not the means of paying the wages of the servants at present employed on my establishment.

33. Do you think the general distress now prevailing will cause a reduction of wages?—It must cause a reduction of wages; we cannot afford to employ our present number of hands at the present rate of wages, and therefore we must discharge our servants, unless wages come down.

34. Do you not think the present low price of stock affords an excellent opportunity for capitalists to invest their money?—I have been much surprised that capitalists have not invested capital in stock, as they could not fail to derive a large profit from purchases made at the very low and ruinous rate to the seller for which stock may at present be obtained.

Thursday, 16th June 1842.

HENRY O'BRIEN Esq., J. P., called in, and examined.

H. O'Brien, Esq.

16th June 1842.

1. ARE you in the occupation of a large extent of government land beyond the boundaries of location?—I am.

2. Can you state the number of sheep or cattle which you generally have on such land?—I have at present, I think, about 12,000 sheep; I have no cattle under my own management on the government lands.

3. What extent of land do you occupy in that way?—From about 20,000 to 25,000 acres; I am not certain as to the exact quantity.

4. Do you consider that the uncertain tenure of such land exposes the occupier to any disadvantages, in the event of any change of system on the part of government, tending to cut up his land?—Not under the present state of the colony; but by a change of system on the part of the government, at a time when sales could be effected to a great extent, stockholders might be subjected to very ruinous consequences.

5. Would you upon any fair and moderate terms avail yourself of an opportunity to ensure the possession of the land you speak of for a term of years; and do you think that such would be the disposition of the settlers generally?—I should certainly avail myself of such an offer, and, as far as I am able to judge, other settlers would do so too.

6. Suppose you were secured in the occupation of that land for a reasonable number of years, and on the same terms, would you think it advisable to purchase any portion of the run, in order to form your head station upon it, and to carry improvements into effect?—Much would of course depend upon the conditions of purchase, and extension of the lease.

7. Suppose, for example, that the lease was granted for 14 years?—Then I should be very glad to purchase, on being allowed time for the payment of the purchase-money; it could be paid with ease by the purchaser, by annual instalments during the lease.

8. Can you make any calculation as to what it would be worth while paying annually, during the 14 years, to secure the occupation of the whole run, and the fee simple of the head station?—I should say that the present minimum price of 12*s.* per acre could be paid with advantage. The land to be occupied with each section so purchased, I suppose to be sufficient to support 10,000 sheep in all seasons, making allowance, of course, for the great proportion of perfectly useless land annexed to the grazing grounds now occupied by stockholders throughout the colony; some parts being so from their utter worthlessness, and others from either the total or occasional absence of water.

9. Do you think such a plan would encourage parties to embark capital in stock and sheep farming, and so bring about a demand, which does not exist at present, for your surplus stock?—I think it would induce parties to invest their capital in that way, and thus of course create a demand for stock; I feel persuaded that even under present circumstances large sums would be invested in stock, but for the high rate of interest allowed on deposits in the colonial banks, which, if withheld, would at once induce investment to a large

large amount in stock, to the great benefit of our banking companies themselves, as well as of all other classes.

10. Can you form any opinion as to whether this would be as great an inducement to persons to invest their capital in sheep farming, as a general reduction in the price of land would be?—I think it would be a greater inducement than a reduction in the minimum price of land. Even if the price of land were reduced to the lowest possible amount, I do not think persons could afford to purchase it, as their capital would be much more advantageously invested in the purchase of stock, and few have the means to invest in both stock and land to any great extent.

11. Does it appear to you, if persons had such an occupation of these lands as would enable them to derive a profit from them, that they would be disposed to become purchasers of land?—I think it would be a very natural consequence.

12. If it should be productive of a demand for land in that way, would it not advance the value of landed property generally?—I think it would certainly have that tendency, both within and without the boundaries of location.

13. Does your experience satisfy you that the landed interest is at this moment in a very depressed state, and that it requires some such measure as that alluded to to relieve it?—I do not think that it has ever been so much depressed as at the present time, or so much in want of support.

14. What practical measure can you suggest to relieve that distress?—The only measure I can recommend is a loan, which, however, I fear is beyond the reach of the government.

15. To what purpose would you propose that that loan should be applied?—I would propose that it should be lent in sums to individuals, on mortgage, for three years, at bank interest.

16. If the government had a large sum of money to lend to persons wishing to mortgage their lands, do you think it would have a beneficial effect?—I certainly think it would.

17. Would the borrowing of money in that way have any effect in increasing general profits?—I should think so; there are many persons who, if they had the present means of carrying on their operations, must eventually make profits.

18. To what causes do you attribute the present unexampled depression of the grazing and landed interests of the colony?—The want of a market for the surplus sheep and cattle, the high rate of wages paid for labour, and the low prices obtained for wool both in the colonial and English markets during the past three years.

19. Can you explain how it arises, that whilst there is no market for surplus stock, the import of provisions from foreign countries should be so great?—I should imagine that it is the result of speculation from foreign markets.

20. Can you suggest any means of creating a market for surplus stock?—Not any.

21. Would not the arrival of men of capital, as formerly, be likely to revive the demand?—It might, and most assuredly would have that effect, were the banks to discontinue interest on deposits, a system which must injure even themselves eventually.

22. To what cause do you attribute the falling off in the number of capitalists coming to the colony?—It is probably owing to the unfavourable accounts which they have received of the state of our affairs, which in many instances has been exaggerated by writers in the public prints of the colony.

23. From what time do you date the present depression, and to what do you particularly attribute it?—I think the depression commenced about three years ago, and was occasioned in a great measure by a fall in the price of wool, and the high price of labour at that period.

24. Is not the price of labour falling very fast?—Not now.

25. Have you any difficulty in procuring labour in your neighbourhood?—Not at present.

26. What is the average wages now given in the country you allude to?—From 25*l.* to 30*l.* per annum, with rations, in the Murrumbidgee district. I have discharged some men, to whom I was paying 25*l.* each per annum, owing to their demanding 30*l.*, and have been compelled in consequence to instruct my superintendent to put two flocks of sheep in one, rather than subject myself to the payment of such high rates of wages.

27. What do you reckon to be the value of the ration?—At the lowest estimate 14*l.*; the meat and flour are produced on the station, the tea and sugar are taken at the Sydney prices, allowing for the cost of carriage to the interior, and for waste in the issuing.

28. Will the profits of your establishment enable you to continue these wages?—Certainly not.

29. Are you a large holder of land by purchase?—I have purchased about 9,000 acres.

30. Do you find the value of that land depreciated as well as your stock?—I cannot say, as I have not offered any of my land for sale.

31. What effect has the raising of the government minimum price of land had on the interests of the colony?—I have not given this matter sufficient consideration to be able to afford any information to the Committee on the subject.

32. Do you think it calculated to prevent men of capital coming to the colony?—I should say that persons at home would be much more likely to come out with capital, if they could purchase land at 5*s.*, particularly when they know that the return to be obtained from land purchased at the increased minimum rate is but small, if indeed any.

33. If men of capital had been induced to come out by the low price of land, would not that have afforded a considerable market for the surplus stock of the settlers?—Most assuredly.

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34. Would that not have tended in a great measure to relieve the colony from its present state of depression?—Certainly.

35. If there was a sale for the surplus stock, would not there be considerable profits to the sheepholder in this colony, supposing that the price of the wool would cover all the expenses attendant upon sheep farming?—Most assuredly; and at no time within my recollection has there been a more favourable opportunity than the present, owing to the low price of stock, for persons of capital to invest money in stock with a certainty of realizing large profits.

36. So far as the price of stock is concerned, do you not consider the present a very favourable opportunity for newly arrived capitalists to invest money in the colony?—At the present low price of stock, I know of no more certain source of profit than the investment of capital in stock. Some years ago stock was very high, and persons newly arrived purchased largely; the sudden fall in the price of stock, which took place shortly afterwards, caused embarrassment to some of these purchasers, and total ruin, it is said, to others.

37. What was the state of the graziers when the minimum price of land was 5*s.* per acre?—Very good.

38. Did it remain so during the whole of that period, or was there any interruption to their prosperity?—There was no interruption to the prosperous state of their affairs, so far as I can recollect.

39. Were there any other circumstances which, in your opinion, contributed to that prosperity?—Yes, we had a large influx of immigrants at that time, which considerably reduced the price of labour; wool brought a high price both in England and in the colony; and the government took about 500 tons of salted meat from the settlers annually, for some years, but do not do so now, owing to the diminished numbers of convicts whom they have to provide for.

40. Did not this enable the old settlers to purchase lands in the neighbourhood of their establishments, and to give a much higher price than 5*s.* per acre for them?—It did in many instances; I have known so much as 17*s.* 6*d.* per acre to have been paid for crown lands put up for sale at the then minimum price of 5*s.*; indeed, crown lands would, in my opinion, bring their real value in nine cases out of ten, even if put up for sale at the low price of 1*s.* per acre; whilst few, if any, bidders have been found since the price has been raised to 12*s.*

41. You have already stated that the colony was in a prosperous state when the minimum price of land was 5*s.*;—what do you think would have been the state of the colony now, if that price had remained unchanged?—If persons of capital would have been induced to come out, and purchase land at 5*s.*, the circumstance of its having been raised to 12*s.* must have materially injured the colony, by having prevented the investment not only of English but colonial funds in the purchase of crown lands, the intrinsic value of which, taking them as a whole, is most assuredly not more than three shillings, owing to the utter worthlessness of a great portion of them, and the total or occasional absence of water in some otherwise desirable portions.

42. In what way do you think the giving greater facilities to squatters beyond the boundaries, would operate as an inducement to purchase land within the boundaries?—It would induce men of capital to invest their money in stock, to be depastured on lands leased from the government on moderate terms, for a certain number of years, and place the settlers residing within the limits in a condition, by means of such sales, to improve their purchased lands, or to extend their purchases.

43. Would it not have a tendency to prevent the present holders of such lands from becoming purchasers, if they could obtain a certain tenure of them for a number of years on the terms alluded to?—I think it would not, inasmuch as their purchase on the leased lands would only extend to a section, out of 30,000 acres, or a sufficiency to support 10,000 sheep.

44. Then they would purchase only about the 47th part of the run in that case?—They are limited in their purchase, I understand, to a section only.

45. Do you think if they were allowed to purchase to a larger extent, purchases would be made at the present minimum price?—I think so, with a credit of 14 years, or 21 years in case of the purchase of 4 sections, which I think would be still more desirable;—the purchase-money to be paid by instalments within those periods.

46. Do you think it would be judicious to bind up 30,000 acres for 14 years, for the sake of selling a single section of that property?—I think not; the settler should have liberty to extend his purchase beyond the one section, and in case of a purchase of four sections, the time should be extended from 14 to 21 years.

47. Are you aware that it is intended that the land shall be put up to auction at the expiration of the 14 years, paying to the occupier the then value of the improvements he may have made, taking them at the estimated value of the day?—I have heard that such was intended.

Wednesday, 22d June 1842.

GEORGE M'LEAY Esq., of Brownlow Hill, called in, and examined.

G. M'Leay, Esq.

22d June 1842.

1. YOU are a good deal concerned in agriculture and in sheep farming?—I am.

2. Can you inform the Committee what may be the present state of those interests?—With respect to sheep farming, nothing can be in a more depressed state; as to agriculture, it too is declining every year, and will continue to do so, in my opinion, until some enactment is passed against the introduction of foreign grain. I have found it to my

advantage

advantage to put the greater part of my arable land under lucerne—a permanent grass, and have thus been enabled to keep a dairy establishment on a large scale; as I live at no great distance from Sydney, I find in this way I can get some return for the capital invested, whereas had the land remained under the plough a very considerable loss must have accrued.

3. What observation would you make with respect to the profits on cattle generally? Where there is no dairy, and the cattle are at a distance from market, horned stock are scarcely at present more profitable than sheep.

4. If a market could be found for the surplus cattle even at the present prices, would cattle establishments be profitable?—Not at the present prices, which are ruinously low, in consequence, I have reason to believe, amongst other causes, of the large number of stolen cattle that are brought into the various markets, and which can of course be disposed of to the butchers at a much lower rate than that at which the owners of cattle establishments can sell without loss.

5. Can you suggest any manner in which that may be prevented?—Some check might be given to the practice, by making it imperative upon parties having fat stock to dispose of, to make a report to the nearest police magistrate of the number and brands of the cattle they are about to remove, some weeks previous to their being driven away; and by establishing stations for the inspection of all such cattle, on all the principal roads; but in a country like this, it is obvious that though such a system might check, it could not altogether prevent the evil.

6. Supposing all cattle that come to market were the property of the real grazier, and not of the cattle stealer, do you think there would be a market for all the surplus stock so as to make cattle establishments profitable?—In good seasons certainly not; we require capitalists to salt down meat for exportation. Some of the large stockholders are about to commence this, but it is not the proper business of the stockholder.

7. Have you enquired into the details of that plan, and do you think it likely to be profitable?—I am not acquainted with the details, or the expenses of such a business; I know that it has hitherto been considered profitable to salt down meat for consumption in the colony, but we have now to contend with a large quantity of imported meat, sufficient it is said for a year's consumption, and have consequently to look out for a foreign market; and I here may be permitted to observe, that if such a market were discovered, the quantity of beef withdrawn from colonial use would make room for an increased consumption of mutton, and a new impetus would thus be given to sheep farming.

8. Do you know what price would pay a grazier to rear cattle for salting down?—No price under 7*l.* per head would pay for really good cattle, that is to say, 20*s.* per cwt.

9. What do you reckon into the price, as constituting the price?—The interest upon the value of the land occupied, upon that of the original stock, the costs of servants, horses, and a respectable superintendent to check depredations, which, under the best management, are but too frequent. Few stockholders realize more than 60 per cent. increase, and it must be borne in mind that cattle are not disposable for slaughter before they are four years old. I may add the expense of bringing down to market, which forms a very considerable item in the cost.

10. Would not the difficulty last mentioned be much diminished, if not removed, if ports to the north or south of Sydney could be fixed upon, from which the exports of beef could take place?—No doubt, very considerably, even if the meat were afterwards sent to Sydney for exportation.

11. But you would fix upon other ports than Sydney?—Certainly, because the less cattle are driven the better; by long journeys the quality of meat is much deteriorated, more particularly for salting down.

12. In what degree do you conceive the present depressed condition of the colony is attributable to the mode in which immigration is carried on, or to the extent of immigration?—Immigration, *per se*, most assuredly has not had a bad tendency, but much of the present distress may be attributed to the very large sums of money drained from the colony to pay for immigration.

13. Should you not think likewise, that the preventing an accumulation of capital would in effect have the same influence as the expending it?—Decidedly.

14. Do you conceive that immigration to the same extent would be prejudicial?—Certainly not; we do not however, I think, require for the immediate years, a greater number than we have received during the two past; the present depression cannot be attributed to scarcity of labour; most persons have, it is true, reduced their establishments; many have begun to slaughter their female stock, and others have ceased to allow them to breed; but this is owing to there being no demand whatever for this kind of stock, and if labour were as cheap again as it is, the large proprietors would be compelled, under present circumstances, to curtail their establishments.

15. Do you apprehend that, by any means, the consumption of animal food could be increased in the colony itself?—I do not think that a larger quantity of animal food could be consumed; even if no foreign meat had been imported into the colony, we should sooner or later have had to look elsewhere for a market.

16. With respect to cattle, is it not observable, that the want of a market is the true cause of the present depression?—In a great measure it is the cause; but were it not that people are frightened at the present aspect of the colony, I think that even now breeding stock might be sold. Many capitalists who came here with the intention of embarking in pastoral pursuits, were originally deterred from so doing by the high price of land, and

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the enormous rate of wages; and though the last cause is comparatively removed, the general stagnation in all farming occupations induces them to keep their money invested in other ways.

17. If the general profits of the colony are not increasing, do you think it possible that those persons should continue permanently to obtain the interest on the money they have laid out?—Certainly not.

18. If by the improvement of markets, any profit, however small, were ensured upon sheep and cattle, would not that be the means of obtaining purchasers, and making the cattle profitable?—No doubt; I believe that almost all immigrants of capital come here with the intention of becoming farmers or graziers, and that a great many have been diverted from their original design by the causes I have before mentioned.

19. Do you not consider the present a favourable opportunity for investing money in agricultural and pastoral pursuits?—This would be the very best time to purchase stock of all kinds, on account of their extremely low price. With respect to agriculture, my belief is, that it will ruin all those who embark in it, unless some check is given to the importation of foreign grain.

20. Has it ever occurred to you, that by an alteration or improvement in the system of location beyond the boundaries, a greater inducement would be held out to persons to go there, and so create a market for stock?—In the present state of the markets, I do not conceive that any greater number could be induced to locate themselves beyond the boundaries; the present minimum price of land makes those so located feel as secure in the runs they occupy, as if they possessed leases of them; but there can be no doubt when the very great importance of the wool grown beyond the boundaries is taken into consideration, that every possible protection and encouragement should be given to the squatter. It is so essential for the health and improvement of stock that they should not be limited within range, that on that account these districts are preferred by many of the old settlers, as well as by parties who have lately arrived.

21. Is it then your opinion, taking things as they now are, that the occupiers beyond the boundaries are doing well?—I think that they are doing better, in proportion, than those who bought their land, but only in that respect; the superior condition of their stock, in the present state of the market, is counterbalanced by the higher wages they have to give, and their greater distance from a market; the squatters just now must find it difficult to pay their assessments, and the sums required for licenses.

22. Do you think it probable, if the price of government land were reduced to its former rate, that purchasers would be found so as to create another land fund?—After public confidence is again restored, I think that by degrees there would; though I am of opinion that no person would purchase land for sheep farming at that rate; the pastures most in request for sheep are dry hills and downs, unfit for any other purpose whatever, so far as we yet know; and the value of such land can clearly only be tested by the quantity of wool and mutton it can produce. Just now, when the expense of keep absorbs the whole proceeds of sheep farming, such land could not be sold at any price; if the government should attempt to force the purchaser by threats of ejectment, the only export of the colony would be all but destroyed. Much of the land sold at the sums which caused such an extravagant notion of the value of our lands to obtain, secured to the purchasers ten times the quantity purchased; much was bought for the sake of the convict labour to which it gave a title; for the sake of keeping out bad neighbours, for making properties complete, and for other reasons unconnected with its intrinsic value. Many of these causes will of course still operate in enhancement of the value of land, but should not be taken into consideration in determining a minimum price.

23. After consideration of this subject, do you think, if the land fund could be replenished, it would be advantageous to send the money out of the colony as formerly?—Decidedly not; I am of opinion that the colony has been injured by so much money having been sent out of it, and that it will suffer still more were the system to be continued.

24. Then as a means of preventing that great abstraction of capital, would you be favourable to the measure of a loan?—Certainly; I should have been so on another ground as well, which is this; of the immigrants we are now introducing, a very considerable number consist of children, who will hereafter be a valuable addition to the labour of the colony, but are of no present service; the expense of their importation ought therefore to fall upon those who will hereafter enjoy the benefit of their labour; I also think that raising money in England might increase the interest already felt there for the colony.

25. Do you think, with the present prospects of the land fund, a sufficient security could be given for such a loan as 1,000,000*l*., to be raised in eight years, by annual instalments, in sums of 125,000*l*. at 5 per cent. interest?—I believe that there are about 14,000,000 acres of unalienated land in the 19 counties within the boundaries, of which 1,000,000 at least may be said to be of a certain value; these lands, together with the extensive districts beyond the northern and southern limits, would, I think, afford ample security. The value of these lands, I would beg to observe, would be enhanced tenfold at least, if convict labour were to be employed in laying them open by roads, and forming new lines of communication with the coast. Indeed, in my opinion, upon the continuance of this species of labour, for such purposes, depends, in a very great measure, the prosperity of the colony.

26. Could you suggest any means by which the present general depression might be relieved?—I think if the price of land were reduced, that in due time there would be a reaction.

27. How would that reaction be brought about?—It is natural for every one to wish to possess

possess land, which is after all the only safe and true property. There are many in the colony, I have reason to believe, ready to purchase whenever land shall be put up at a fair price; having land, they will purchase stock; and whenever there is any true value assignable to stock, instead of its present nominal value, confidence will return, and by degrees things will flow on in a more favourable channel; with the knowledge of an improvement in our affairs, and of the price of land having been reduced, immigrants of capital would again flock to our shores, and give new impulse to the progression.

28. Unless a better market were provided than at present, would those purchases of land and stock benefit the purchasers?—Certainly not for any great length of time; but I think that there is a prospect of a market being found—at any rate it will be sought—I mean for our beef, which, if exported, as I said before, will leave a better market for our mutton.

29. Do you not think it might be still more advantageous if, by means of leases, persons were enabled to settle without purchase of land, and so have their money for the purchase of stock?—There can be no doubt of it; instead of going at once into the treasury, the capital introduced would be put into the hands of the stockholder, and thus create a wholesome circulation; ultimately it would be spent in land, no doubt.

30. Would you obtain by such means a permanent class of settlers?—I think I may say that such a class of settlers would be obtained, provided such leases were for a period not less than 10 years, and the lessees had a prospect of being entitled at the end of that time to a right of pre-emption, or of being indemnified by the purchaser of the lands leased for their improvements.

Wednesday, 22d June 1842.

ROBERT SCOTT Esq., of Glendon, called in, and examined.

1. You have been more than once examined before the Immigration Committee?—Yes, either twice or thrice.

2. Last year was one of these occasions?—It was.

3. With reference to the evidence then given by you, will you have the goodness to say, whether your subsequent experience has confirmed the opinions you then expressed, or whether they have undergone any change, and if so, in what particulars?—I think my opinions are the same now as then. In many points they have been strongly confirmed, particularly respecting the "Squatting Act." I am, however, able to hire as many servants now as I please; then I could not; but the immigrants have not been of so good a description as they ought to have been, considering the cost of their introduction, and that the money was supplied by this colony. Indeed, if the parochial authorities, or others in England, had sent out such people as they were desirous of getting rid of, I think we could not have been worse supplied, as to the class of persons, than we have lately been. I do not think we could have a worse description of people than the immigrants sent us recently.

4. Why did not those who desired a better description of immigrants avail themselves of the services of their friends in England, to select for them such as they required?—I will answer that personally. I sent to an old friend of mine at Higham Ferrers, the clergyman of the parish, and he engaged for me 20 persons, after considerable trouble; but when the day for starting arrived only one lad would consent to come out. Another reason is, because the servants, if good, are very soon inveigled away by one's neighbours; and the labour and expense of introducing them are thus lost to the importer for the benefit of some worthless person; and again, the indentures under which servants must be introduced are not sufficiently defined or recognized by the law.

5. If there be no possibility, even with such care and diligence, to obtain a better class of people, what then is our remedy?—Removing the ignorance at present existing in England with reference to the colony; the persons to whom I have alluded as refusing to come out, said that they would have no objection to follow if the lad would send home good accounts of the country. I have written to other friends in England, and they have experienced the same difficulty, in inducing good people to emigrate to this colony; they feel a great repugnance to come here. I hired some very good men from the Immigrant Barracks some time ago, and they are in my employ still.

6. Are the good men you speak of from one of the counties of England, and which?—I do not know the county, but they are Englishmen.

7. What is your opinion as to the present state of the pastoral and agricultural interests of the colony?—Both are in a very depressed state.

8. Have you ever known them more so?—I have; in the years 1828 and 1829 they were much worse.

9. In what respect?—The bankruptcies were more numerous than amongst those engaged in agricultural and pastoral occupations, in proportion to the population; and the price of stock was lower than it is now, or quite as low, and we then fed our stock over lands for nothing, great part of which we have now bought, and have to contend against the interest on the capital; labour then was both cheap and abundant.

10. There was no outgoing for labour then comparatively to what there is now?—No; labour was not paid for by money-wages as now, nor had we then to pay for its introduction as we have now; not for ourselves only, but for the whole colony. Every class of the community employs labour, and it seems unfair, therefore, that the land-owners only should pay for its introduction.

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11. Was there abundance of labour in the colony at that time?—There were then assigned men to be obtained as shepherds.

12. To what causes do you attribute the present embarrassment of the colony?—I think the present depression amongst agriculturists is attributable to many causes; one has been the scarcity of labour, and the difficulty of obtaining it even at a high rate of wages. It appears to me, however, to be a not unnatural reaction. The state of the settlers a year or two ago was, I think, quite as unnatural as it is now; the feverish height of the one state was quite as unhealthy as the depression of the other. Another great cause is the application of the land fund to other purposes than the introduction of labour; by the amount of that abstraction the land-owners have paid too high for their property, and they have not had value for their money.

13. Do you think the high price of labour for the last two years is one cause of the present depression?—Certainly; we are now suffering from that cause; the high rate of wages running away with all profits, no man would enter into pastoral pursuits, and in consequence there has been no sale for our surplus stock. This has, as a natural consequence, deteriorated the price of land; as the less the produce derived from land, of the less value that land becomes; whereas, in the face of this, the Government have increased the price of their land from 3*s.* to 12*s.* an acre, and thereby, I am of opinion, disorganised the agricultural system, and the relation between land and produce. The squatting system also has materially contributed to these effects, as it has deteriorated the price of land, and prevented its sale; I may here say I am an extensive squatter myself.

14. Then you attribute the present depression of the agricultural interests to the high price of labour for the last two years, and to the Government raising the minimum price of land?—Yes; and whilst they raised the price of land on the one hand, they lowered it on the other, by charging the squatters so small a sum for occupation licenses; the squatters, too, have considerably raised the price of labour, by employing a large portion of persons brought out at the expense of the land fund, whilst they have not contributed to the increase of that fund. I must, however, at the same time admit that the squatters are the thews and sinews of the country.

15. Then while you would lower the price of land to the purchaser within the boundaries, you would raise it to the squatter?—Undoubtedly, and in just proportion, though that proportion may not be very easy to determine; I would weigh his advantages with his disadvantages, and fix the price accordingly. I would induce him to purchase land by every means in my power, and thereby render his interests identical with those of the community, which certainly is not the case, so long as he continues a squatter only, as at present.

16. Then you would recommend some system should be adopted which would give the squatter a more permanent lien upon the land he occupies?—I would strongly recommend such a system to be adopted; I would not permit any man to dispossess him at any time, except by purchase at auction. Indeed, I am so anxious that squatters should be held to consider themselves as denizens of this colony, that I would even abandon my most favourite system of sale by auction, and give them the right of pre-emption; but sale by auction, at a fair upset price is undoubtedly the best, and I would give the squatter compensation for all improvements which he had made, to be paid by the person purchasing the station, or by the Government if they resumed the land, leaving the value of such improvements to be settled by arbitration.

17. Do you not think that the existence of a good market for all the produce of the colony would be the best mode of relieving the present distress?—Unquestionably; a good and steady market; I look upon a steady market as much better than a high one.

18. With respect to wool, do you not think there is a steady market in England for what can be raised in the colony, although at rather a low price?—I do; a fair market; but I think its management capable of improvement.

19. To what cause then do you attribute the circumstance that a sufficient number of capitalists is not found to embark in that trade, or, which is the same thing, to purchase the surplus stock?—Because it is a losing business at present.

20. Will you have the goodness to favour the committee with your opinion as to the means which might be adopted to prevent its being a losing concern?—I think it hinges on the labour question; the price of land will adjust itself, for no man will buy land at a ruinous price; and so far as sheep farming is concerned, its future existence depends on Coolie labour, of the expediency of introducing which I am becoming daily more and more convinced; and I would beg, with the deepest earnestness, to impress upon the attention of his Excellency the Governor and the Honourable the Legislative Council this most vital subject.

21. Do you mean to state it as your opinion that it is impossible to obtain European labour in this colony at such a rate as would make it profitable to the settler to employ it?—I do not mean to say that; but I hope that good European labour in this colony will never be so badly rewarded. I consider the employment of European labour in sheep-farming to be a misapplication; it is using a giant's strength where that of a child would suffice.

22. With respect to the other great branch, that of cattle, will you state what steps have been taken to provide for the disposal of the increase every year?—I am not aware of any steps having been taken; but they will naturally follow the depreciation of stock. We shall have recurrence to salting down and exporting, so soon as the price will enable us to enter into competition with other countries. Yet here again the price of labour will interfere. The wages of coopers will eat up all profits. The price in America of a beef barrel is 4*s.*, whereas it would be esteemed cheap at 8*s.* in Sydney.

23. Do you not think, that with the steady market for wool which you have spoken of, and a market which might be created for the salt provisions, together with an improvement in the supply of labour, the colony need not despair?—I have never despaired of its return to prosperity, nor do I now; I have no doubt of its recovery, but I tremble at the cost; and there is no knowing who will fall sacrifices, and how long it may last; these three are the main points from which returning prosperity is to be looked for; with labour at a moderate rate, and a steady supply of it, we could raise many articles for ourselves, which are now imported, to the value of hundreds of thousands of pounds yearly.

24. With reference to the present depressed price of land and stock, do you not consider this a favourable opportunity for investing money in agricultural and pastoral pursuits?—I could not answer that question, unless I could foresee the future; the prices of stock are now far below their real value; if labour could be had at a reasonable rate, then it would; but on the contrary, if labour becomes dearer than it now is, pastoral pursuits must be destroyed. In either case, stock cannot possibly be profitably depastured on bought lands, at the exorbitant price of the day; indeed the old rate is too high, unless a return to the high prices of stock could also be ensured.

25. Unless there is a market for the surplus stock, do you consider that the demand for labour will continue, keeping in view the large number of labourers lately imported?—If our concerns are to fail, we cannot employ labour at all; unless we have a profitable market for our stock, which he have not now, we must be ruined, and of course discharge our servants; I myself have reduced my establishments to some extent; I should be glad to have at least 100 more men in my employ than I have at present, if I could obtain a good return; in consequence of the extreme depression, there is now no encouragement to go to any expense in improving the breed of stock; those of an inferior description, and reared at a lower cost, will now sell equally as well as the best breeds.

26. If the price of labour were to fall, would not that probably create a new demand for stock, tending to make it comparatively profitable?—The moment that labour fell to such an extent, that care of stock would pay, many persons would undoubtedly engage in that pursuit.

27. What are the ingredients that enter into the expense of keeping stock?—Cost of provisions, the expense of bringing cattle to market, and the price of labour; the risk of loss by drought also has great weight.

28. Is there not another material ingredient, the price of land?—Certainly, this is an essential ingredient in the maintenance of stock; but I do not think that any stock, except the most improved, and consequently the highest priced, can be profitably bred upon bought land, even at 5*s.* per acre, and interest at 10 per cent.

29. You have stated, that you have thought it desirable to raise the terms of the tenure of land beyond the boundaries; what is the highest amount that a squatter could afford to pay, to make it profitable to him?—Under present circumstances he can do nothing; all his operations would be at a loss; in other circumstances much would depend upon distance; he should have a lease; the name of assessment is odious, that of rent is not; nothing but a permanent lease will do.

30. What do you mean by a permanent lease?—I have already said that he should not be ejected, except by the sale of the land.

31. You have stated that he should be paid for his improvements; do you mean that he should be paid to the extent of his outlay, or the estimated value of the improvements at the time?—I mean the estimated value of the improvements at the time when the land is sold—the in-coming possessor to have full value for his money.

32. If greater facilities were given to squatters and greater securities to the occupiers of land beyond the boundaries, would not that, do you think, prevent, in a proportionate degree, the sale of Crown lands?—I am of opinion that there would not be a single squatter but would purchase his head station at least, when an opportunity might be afforded him to do so, and he had the means of paying for it; and that the sales of land within the boundaries would not be affected by such advantages being allowed to squatters; I myself would purchase land of no value to any body else, in order to make my estate complete.

33. Do you assume that the plan proposed would involve permission from the Government to purchase land beyond the boundaries?—Yes; I would present every inducement, and afford every facility to the purchase of land; the squatters should have the power to buy whenever they choose and are able, but at auction, that the public may have the fair value, and the squatters would then pay their fair quota to the labour fund.

34. You think, then, if people had permanent security of land beyond the boundaries, that it would not affect the sale of land within the boundaries?—I think that squatters generally would do what I myself have done; from my profits made by feeding over unoccupied land free of expense, I have yearly laid out the money so made in the purchase of land, and thus added to my estate, and returned to the public what I otherwise should have been wholly unable to do.

35. You have an opportunity of doing so now; why do you not do so?—Because the price now fixed by the Government is far too high.

36. Is it not probable that this land would sell to other parties at the present price, within a reasonable time?—I do not think it would sell to any person, even at 5*s.* an acre, as I have picked all the good land out of that to which I refer at that price, and very dear it has been; for when I bought it, it was under the distinct understanding that with the land I bought labour also.

37. Do you not obtain an advantage, then, by the price being fixed beyond what could be

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be given by other parties, inasmuch as you are thereby secured in the possession of the land without purchase?—Under these circumstances, I undoubtedly do obtain an advantage, being secured without purchase; unoccupied lands are often beneficial to an individual, but at the expense of the community; and that private benefit is very precarious, from the liability to intrusion from any quarter.

38. You are aware that a measure for raising a loan in England, for the purpose of obtaining funds for the introduction of labour into the colony, has been under the consideration of the committee for a number of years past?—I am.

39. Do you consider such a measure advisable?—I look upon it as indispensable, though I cannot but regard it in some measure as an evil.

40. Why is it indispensable?—Because I think labour will be scarcer, and consequently at a higher rate, during the present year, than at any former period, unless immigration is continued; immigration being indispensable, I consider a loan also indispensable, as it is impossible to look for any fund from the sale of Crown lands. I look forward with hope to the scheme of a general system of emigration mooted in England; this will be our preservation; I consider that a great change must take place in the management of property in the colony; stockholders will no longer be able to carry on the extensive operations which they have hitherto done; their large establishments must be split into small stations.

41. As the land fund is destroyed, upon what security is the loan to be raised?—The land, and not the fund, will be the proper security for the loan; but it is to be hoped that the land fund will be revived when we understand the subject better.

42. Has not the system of paying immediately in cash to the British merchant for the introduction of immigrants been attended with great disadvantage to the colony, by the rapid abstraction of so large an amount of capital?—No doubt; but even that is a less evil than the want of labour, which, but for the expenditure of that capital, would have existed.

43. Had that capital remained in the colony, is it not probable that there would have been a demand for the surplus stock?—The evil would not have been so great, but the keeping of the funds here would not have altogether prevented the evil.

44. Are you aware that during the last four years 800,000*l.* have been expended on immigration, and that a great portion of the labour introduced has been unavailable?—I am aware that that sum has been expended, and that a large portion of the labour introduced has not been immediately available, because of the great number of women and children; and, with rare exceptions, the women will not do any field-work.

45. Must there not be a great difference, as to amount, between a land fund sufficient to provide security for a loan, principal and interest, and a land fund which should be sufficient, *per se*, to bear the entire expenses of immigration?—A very great difference.

46. May it not be possible to provide a land fund sufficient for the former purpose, although it may be impracticable to raise the latter amount?—I look forward to the land fund being again raised to something like what it has been in former years.

47. Do you think then, that the land fund may be relied on as the means of paying principal and interest on such a sum as it might be thought advisable to raise by way of loan, to be expended in the introduction of labour?—I question whether it would be beneficial to expend the land fund, because I think that the demand for labour will so increase as prosperity returns, that it will be our interest to lay out the entire land fund in the introduction of labour, and to leave the debt standing. Indeed I am disposed to think that no land should be virtually sold, but only the quit-rent, so that the Government would have a perpetual revenue from this source, and be unable to touch the principal.

48. Does not all that has now been said turn upon the expectation that there will be a profitable market created to the settler?—Certainly, all must depend upon a profitable employment of the settler's capital, which cannot exist without the creation of markets for his produce.

Wednesday, 20th July 1842.

MATTHEW HENRY MARSH Esq., of New England, called in, and examined.

M. H. Marsh, Esq.

20th July 1842.

1. The Committee understand that you are engaged in sheep-farming in this colony?—I am so engaged, beyond the boundaries of location.

2. How long have you been so engaged?—For nearly two years.

3. In what district?—In New England.

4. Have you experienced any difficulty in carrying on your operations, from want of labour, or otherwise?—When first I commenced my operations, I experienced considerable difficulty, owing to the ill-behaviour of my men, and my inability to discharge them, in consequence of the then scarcity of labour. Labour now is more plentiful; and being able to supply their place without much difficulty, I discharge men who behave ill, and give additional wages, according to agreement, to those who behave well, which I find promotes good conduct.

5. What do you consider the total expense of a shepherd at this time?—I give generally 25*l.* a year and rations, and 5*l.* extra to men who behave well, besides presents at the lambing season and on other occasions. The rations which I give consist of ten pounds meat, ten pounds flour, two pounds sugar, one quarter pound of tea, and two ounces of negro-head tobacco, a week. I generally allow married men half a ration for their wives, and there is a deduction, not however equal to the half value of the ration, in their wages, where the women cannot make themselves useful by washing; and where a man has a son who can shepherd, two rations are amply sufficient for the family, even should there be another child, as where a woman cooks, the waste must be very much less than is generally the case. What their

cost

cost is I cannot easily calculate, as I grow my own wheat; and in making an estimate of the cost, I must take into account various expenses attendant on wear and tear of ploughs, bullocks, fencing of fields, reaping, thrashing, grinding, &c. My actual yearly expenditure in money for the purchased articles, tea, sugar, and tobacco, does not, I should say, exceed 4*l.* per man. The meat issued is of course produced on the establishment; there is a further expense incurred in providing the men with pots, pans, buckets, &c., which, although apparently trifling, amount in the aggregate to a very considerable item, chiefly owing to the great carelessness and waste of the men, which was a natural consequence of the late convict system, and is not yet entirely eradicated.

6. What would you consider the additional expense incurred in raising wheat?—I have one man grinding wheat about four days a week; reaping is a considerable expense. In grinding and thrashing I employ the labour of about one man per annum, besides a horse at the mill. The wear and tear of the horse, mill, &c., must be taken into consideration. I am now building a windmill to grind for others as well as myself, which I calculate, when completed, will save the labour of about twenty men in the district.

7. Since you have resided in the district you speak of, have the seasons been such as to enable you to grow wheat, and do you intend to continue the growth of wheat?—With proper management a crop of wheat would never fail; I have had this year five different crops sown at different times, and all succeeded; there was about six weeks difference in the time of their ripening.

8. Do you consider that as applicable to your own station, or to the colony generally?—I am speaking only of the district of New England; I know no other part of the colony where it is at all applicable; and in that district I am aware that many crops failed during the present year. These failures were, however, in my opinion, entirely owing to bad management. There are only about three of the settlers in the district who have grown enough wheat this year for their own consumption.

9. In engaging labour, have you found any difficulty in procuring agricultural labourers?—I have found no difficulty whatever in getting agricultural labourers from among the immigrants; but it is difficult to get them from among the ticket-of-leave holders, or expirees, few of the latter classes being able to plough, thrash, &c. I have no convicts on my establishments.

10. Do you consider the occupation of land, under a yearly lease, long enough?—I do not consider it long enough, in consideration of the large outlay upon buildings which it is necessary to make, and also the expense and risk of running stock to a new station. I have a station, the buildings on which cost my predecessors and myself near 1,000*l.*

11. Were those buildings so essential to the welfare of your station, as to induce you to lay out so large a sum on their erection?—I do not say that so large an outlay would be absolutely necessary. The buildings of which I speak could have been built good enough to answer the purpose for 600*l.* or 700*l.*

12. Then you would be satisfied if you had such a tenure of your station, as to length of time, as would enable you to retrieve this outlay?—A great many things are to be considered besides this outlay; it would be more advantageous for a man to give 800*l.* for a station, for 7,000 sheep, already formed, than to commence a station himself; he would save a very great expense and risk of catching disease, &c., in removing his sheep. There would be extra wages of men for travelling with the sheep; and it is probable that the first year his wheat crop, owing to the ground being fresh broken up, would be a partial, if not a total failure, and the consequent cost of flour would be very great.

13. Is it usual to sell those stations?—Very usual indeed.

14. Has the squatter power to hold his station against all parties but the Crown?—No doubt.

15. In case a person purchase a station already formed, would he have the same tenure and privileges as the original occupier?—Yes, he would be in exactly the same position that the original occupier stood in.

16. Do you proceed with these improvements on the assumption, that though the Crown has the power, yet it will not break up your establishments by selling them?—Most decidedly; we go on the ground, first, that it would be ruinous to the colony to break up this system; and secondly, that if the land were resumed by government, with a view to sale, it would, except in the times of a land mania, produce nothing whatsoever. It is obvious that it would answer no man's purpose to give any thing whatsoever for the land, for the legitimate purpose of grazing; and it is to be hoped that the ruin to so many, and the general disastrous state of the colony now brought about by the land speculations of from two to five years ago, will operate as a warning to prevent people in future from buying land of no intrinsic value, and fit for no other purpose but to sell to others at a premium, who, in their turn, would sell again, until the bubble burst, and discounts were contracted. I am satisfied it can never answer any legitimate purpose to buy land for grazing, as the rent—the only real test of value—could be very little, if any at all. From ten to thirteen per cent., after deducting interest on capital, is all that the squatter now gains, and a smaller profit would not answer his purpose, considering the liability to disease amongst his sheep, and other casualties; it is clear, therefore, that he can afford to pay no rent.

17. Will you be so good as to shew, in the method of an account, what profit may fairly be calculated upon from sheep-farming on land occupied under pasturage licence?—I consider that under the best management, and the most favourable circumstances, the wool may be made to pay the annual expenses, in which case the increase is the profit; and the difficulty in answering this question, consists in estimating the value of such increase in a colony where the price of sheep, owing to circumstances with which sheep-farming has

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nothing to do, is frightfully fluctuating. The only possible way in which the calculation can be made, is by supposing that the sheep farmer will be able to sell his increase at the same rate that he originally gave for his stock; it is well known that sheep have been sold in this colony within a few years at from 3*l.* to 3*s.* each, and although the average price, and perhaps the real intrinsic value, is from 1*l.* 5*s.* to 1*l.* 10*s.*, let me first, for the purposes of this calculation, suppose the price of a mixed quantity of sheep (the way in which they are almost aways sold) to be 1*l.* per head, and let me suppose that the sheep farmer has—

15,000 sheep, at 1*l.* - - - - - - -	£. 15,000
Fixed capital, including buildings, working oxen, drays, horses, &c. necessary for carrying on an establishment of 15,000 sheep -	1,500
Floating capital, being an average of from thirteen to fifteen months advance in wages, on articles purchased, &c., before the wool can be disposed of - - - - - -	2,000
TOTAL - - -	£.18,500

Out of 15,000 mixed sheep, about 7,000 will be breeding ewes, and the increase from them after deducting the decrease amongst the whole 15,000, in consumption of mutton and deaths, may be put at 70 per cent., or in round numbers, 5,000; but one-half of this increase must be wethers, which being a necessary article of consumption, and not the subject of speculation, are not liable to so great a variation in price; reckoning the wethers at 10*s.*, and the ewes at the original price, 1*l.*, gives 3,750*l.* as the annual profit on 18,500*l.*—that is to say, the sheep farmer, at the end of the first year, can sell stock to the amount of 3,750*l.*, and have the same number left as he originally purchased. It will be suggested, that if the average of the sheep is 1*l.*, and of the wethers only 10*s.*, the ewes ought to be worth something more than 1*l.*; but when it is considered that the sheep farmer, to keep up the character of his original stock, and, if possible, to improve them, ought only to sell his oldest and worst ewes, perhaps 1*l.* is very little less than the value. Let me, in the second place, put the price at 10*s.*, which on 15,000 sheep is 7,500*l.*, and with fixed and floating capital as before, 11,000*l.*, which, with increase as before, and reckoning the wethers at 10*s.* still gives 2,500*l.* as profit on 11,000*l.* Let me, in the third place, suppose that the original stock are purchased at 5*s.*, that is 15,000 sheep for 3,250*l.*, and with fixed and floating capital as before, 6,750*l.*, increase as before, 5,000; I will now reckon wethers as worth only 7*s.* 6*d.* each, which gives the value of 2,500 ewes at 5*s.*, and 2,500 wethers at 7*s.* 6*d.*, 1,550*l.* annual profit on an original investment of 6,750*l.* In times of such very great monetary depression, as to allow sheep to sink to 10*s.* and 5*s.*, it is true that the floating and fixed capital required will not be so great as at other times; horses, working oxen, &c., will be cheaper, and the price of labour will be somewhat lessened, from the inability of others to employ it in that wasteful and extravagant manner unfortunately too common in this colony, either in their own personal gratifications, or in wild speculation; but at the same time, most of the great expenses of a sheep establishment, such as taxes, ironmongery, tea, sugar, &c., will not be materially altered. The profit on sheep-farming, after deducting 10 per cent. interest, is from 10 to 13 per cent. per annum. These calculations are made without any reference to the casualties of the diseases of sheep, so dreadful in their consequences, and which even the best management cannot entirely ward off. Many are only applicable to districts where the sheep farmer can grow his own wheat. The profit I have spoken of can only be obtained by the very best of management; and I think I am within the mark in stating that it is not obtained in one case out of twenty. It may perhaps be obtained with a very small number of sheep as well as on a large scale, as although, in the latter case the proportion of expenses is less, in the former instance the squatter's own personal labour and exertions will be proportionably more. The calculations are also wholly inapplicable to a sheep farmer who has not ample room on his runs; where he is in the slightest degree hedged in and stinted at his stations, the difference is incalculable, as, under such circumstances, his flocks cannot be so large, and consequently his expenses will be greater; his sheep cannot be in such good condition, and consequently his wool and increase will be less; and in both instances to a degree of which no one who has not seen the fatal effects of overstocking can have the slightest conception; I am convinced that the indigenous grasses, with fair treatment, do not deteriorate in quantity and quality; but when a run has once been overstocked, and the grasses pulled up by the roots by the sheep, it is impossible to say how long it may be before the country can recover, as in this climate, where once vegetation has been entirely stopped by trampling down, or otherwise, it appears that an almost indefinite time is required before grass will grow there again, when the ground is bare, and open to the drought and the powerful action of the sun's rays.

18. At what distance are your stations from the port whence you ship your wool?—At present one is 250 miles, another 35 miles farther; but the new road will reduce the distance 100 miles; I have another station on the edge of the table land, near Darling Downs, which is about 120 miles from the navigation of the Brisbane.

19. Will that road proportionately lower the expense of transit?—It may reduce it by about 50*l.* or 60*l.* per annum; not more.

20. Suppose you had a better tenure of your land than you at present enjoy, or a right of ownership by purchasing a small quantity, would that assist you?—Very much indeed.

21. Do you consider there is arable land enough in New England to cultivate wheat extensively?—I think so.

22. What is the extent of the district?—It is about 120 miles by 30.

23. What portion of that land is suitable for the growth of wheat?—I should say wheat might

might be grown upon about one-half, supposing the best system of English or Scotch farming were introduced; there is, however, a very large quantity of land that will produce good wheat by merely being ploughed and harrowed.

24. Have you any rotation of crops yet introduced into the district?—I grow a little maize where the soil is too strong for wheat, and some barley, oats, and millet; but there is very little occasion to grow any food for stock, as the indigenous grasses of the country are superior to any thing artificial.

25. You think wheat more congenial to the district?—Yes; but barley, oats, and potatoes do very well.

26. Do the native grasses supply the place of all green crops?—The grass is fully sufficient in all ordinary seasons.

27. Do you make any hay?—I made some this year.

28. What is the general character of summer there; is the country subject to the drought as in other parts?—This summer we have had very slight rains, not more than eight or nine inches in all. The country, however, is in a very good state, and we have not in the least suffered from drought. I should say, upon the whole, the character of the country is rather too wet than too dry.

29. Is there any failure of water?—No; I know no place in the district half a mile distant from water.

30. Is it a country difficult of access or to travel over?—The table land may be galloped over from one end to the other; there is no obstacle, with the exception of two or three not very high ridges. The rise up to the table land is, however, difficult on all sides, particularly towards the sea.

31. Speaking of sheep only, you compute that the produce of wool pays the expenses; if stock remains at the present nominal price, do you calculate on a profit of 25 per cent.?—Yes, if the increase were saleable at the present nominal price; I believe, however, there are but very few stations where the wool pays expenses.

32. Do you suffer from hot winds?—Hot winds have never been known in the district before last summer, when it was said there was one; I do not, however, believe it, and did not experience it myself.

33. Is the climate such as admits of wheat being preserved above ground longer than a year?—Yes; there is no weevil; I have wheat now by me in stack of the growth of 1840.

34. Supposing the government were to allow a certain occupation of the pasturage for a large number of sheep, and to enable the occupier to purchase a portion of the station, on which to effect his improvements, do you conceive it would tend to improve the condition of the squatter?—It would materially improve his condition in a moral point of view. Many of the squatters, whilst resident on their stations, live in the most wretched way, and without any sort of comfort. When they come to Sydney, they spend their money extravagantly, and remain much longer than is necessary for the transaction of their business. They are in many instances away from home half the year, and even considerably more, much to the detriment of their property. The difference observable at stations where the proprietors are resident, and those where they are non-resident, is extraordinary. I think that if they had a permanent interest in the soil they would become much more stationary.

35. What sum do you think it would answer a squatter to pay for a portion, say one section, of the whole of the land he occupies, continuing to pay the 10*l.* for license, and the assessment on sheep and cattle as at present?—I think he might afford to give 12*s.* an acre, to be paid by instalments during five years; most people would purchase on these terms, but in no case should the purchase exceed one section, and where the stock was not large it should be very much less; the amount of the purchase money should not bear interest.

36. The Committee assume that your observations are made on the supposition that the government regulations, with respect to water frontage, &c., would be enforced in the case of these lands as well as of those within the boundaries?—The case would then be materially altered; if the purchase cannot be less than one section, and both sides of the water frontage cannot be occupied, no person could afford to pay 12*s.* an acre; the price should not in this case be more than 6*s.*; the occupancy of both banks of the water is not so much for the sake of the run the water commands as for convenience in other respects; the most suitable sites for the buildings of a station are in places where the streams closely approach the basis of the hills, and the ground sloping from them affords a dry and sheltered position; in cases where such a choice is made, the buildings must of necessity be on one side of the river; the best place for cultivation is on the flat below, on the other side of the water; this is almost invariably the case at every station already formed.

37. Would they be called water frontages, according to the colonial custom?—I imagine that they would.

38. What number of stations do you consider to exist in the tract of country of which you have been speaking?—There are about 60 stations, exclusive of those on Darling Downs.

39. The Returns furnished by the Commissioners of Crown Lands show 76 stations in New England; as you say there are about 60, how do you account for the difference?—I suppose them to be on Darling Downs, which are at present under the same commissioner.

40. Is the character of the country on the Darling Downs equally as good as that of which you have been speaking?—There is a very great difference; the Downs, I believe, are not at all suited for agriculture; the crops of wheat and maize have failed there this year; I have seen only one station myself, but I believe the general character of the country is

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is similar to that portion of it which I have visited, and th is not suited to agriculture; the pasture is, I think, superior to that of New England, if the country is not subject to droughts.

41. Could supplies for the Darling Downs be obtained from the table-land without much difficulty?—I think they could, from some portion of it; but this could only be to a very slight extent, and to a very short distance, the carriage being so great, and drays having to be sent empty on purpose; whereas, if the squatters on the Downs obtained their flour from the coast, their return wool drays would, perhaps, be able to bring back their supplies of flour.

42. Do the Downs lie in a lower elevation?—Yes, from 800 to 1,000 feet below the actual fall of the table-land.

43. Suppose the plan of the purchase of a section were carried into effect, do you consider it would tend to introduce a class of tenants, or of small holders?—To a very limited extent, if at all; there would be no market for the produce raised by such small holders. The carriage to the thickly-peopled part of the colony must, for an almost indefinite period, be very expensive; the cartage of flour, for instance, would, at the present time, be considerably more than the value of the article on the coast.

44. Might they not sell sufficient to procure for themselves and their families as many superfluities as they now obtain in service?—Certainly not; their situation would not be at all improved by quitting service. I very much doubt whether in any part of the colony, the situation of a small farmer is as desirable as that of a labourer; and this would apply much more forcibly to New England, where wages are higher, and rations better, than near the coast.

45. You do not think, then, that the tendency of that measure would be to unduly promote labourers becoming themselves employers of labour?—Decidedly not; it would have no such effect.

46. Under present circumstances, what prospect has a labouring man of rising to the condition of an independent land-owner?—Any industrious man of decent habits cannot fail to save money. Most of my men are possessed of sums of money. I have two men who have between them more than 100*l.*, which is lent out at interest, and is yearly accumulating. A good man may expect at some time to rise to be an overseer, in which case he is almost sure to accumulate cattle and horses, which, as they run with his employer's and cost him nothing, is almost always allowed. In this way, a man may in a reasonable time acquire an independence.

47. Have they any disposition to invest that money in the purchase of land, rather than remain in service?—They have some disposition to speculate in land, but not to purchase with a view to occupying it themselves.

48. Have you ever turned your thoughts to the possibility of giving the shepherds an interest in the flocks rather than wages?—I have thought of regulating the amount of their wages by the number of sheep under their care, but I think that payment in stock would be attended with numerous difficulties.

49. You are of opinion that to raise wool to any extent, the flock-masters must be men of capital?—Decidedly; the floating expenses are so very large. I must now myself provide for expenses up to March 1843, and have not yet received the account sales of the whole of my wool (and consequently not the full value of it) of the clip of 1840. To carry on sheep-farming it would be necessary to have a floating capital equal to an average of about one year and a quarter's expenses.

50. That state of things will be lessened when the distance from the shipping ports is shortened?—Slightly so; but even supposing the settler to receive immediate payment for his wool, he would have been obliged to procure supplies for his station during the previous year in advance; it is of the greatest consequence to a squatter not to be in debt in his agent's books; I know instances where parties, having to pay interest on borrowed floating capital, are on the very verge of ruin, while their immediate neighbours, under circumstances otherwise the same, but having prudently reserved sufficient money for floating capital, are thriving.

51. Then you think it more advisable, in commencing sheep farming, that the settler should not expend the whole of his capital in stock, but keep a portion to meet expenses?—Decidedly.

52. Is it practically a matter of much difficulty to determine the boundaries of the different stations?—By no means; little squabbles sometimes arise; but there have been scarcely any cases of dispute brought before the Commissioner.

53. Do you think the district is too extensive for one Commissioner?—One Commissioner can well perform the duties of the district of New England, not including Darling Downs.

54. Are you much annoyed by the native blacks?—No, the blacks have not been troublesome lately; whenever attacks have been made by them, they have in general been caused by injudicious treatment of them on the part of the settlers, in attempting to civilize them prematurely; there is, I should say, a strong disposition in their favour, as well amongst the men as the settlers, and consequently they sometimes get them to come to the stations before they fully know the power and habits of white men; and murders and atrocities are sometimes committed by them, which would not have occurred if they had not been admitted to the stations before they had got gradually acquainted with the customs of the whites, from civilized tribes or otherwise.

55. What time do you think it would take to teach newly arrived immigrants shepherding?—They might learn the duty in ten days; one of my best shepherds is a boy of about 18 years

18 years of age, and began shepherding for the first time in his life with me about 14 months ago.

56. Do you allude to persons used to a country life?—Yes; mechanics, and others used to a town life, do not like shepherding. In general I prefer the Irish as shepherds; they are very apt, and make good bushmen; they are less afraid of losing themselves in the bush than Englishmen.

57. Then you have no dearth of labour in your district?—Not at present; I do not wish to see wages reduced much more if the men are good.

58. Are there many convicts in your district?—Very few.

59. Have you observed any change in the character of the people in consequence?—I consider that the character of the people has been most decidedly improved; ticket-of-leave holders and expirees now no longer boast of having been transported to the country, as they were in the habit of doing some time ago, but wish to be classed among the immigrants.

60. How many sheep do you keep in a flock?—Up to 1,500.

61. Do you find that answer well?—I do.

Thursday, 21st July 1842.

EVAN MACKENZIE Esq., of Moreton Bay, called in, and examined.

1. THE Committee understand you are an occupier of land for pasturage beyond the boundaries?—I am.

2. In what district?—In Moreton Bay.

3. At what distance from Brisbane Town are you settled?—About from 60 to 70 miles.

4. Have you easy communication for your produce?—Yes; I have two roads.

5. Where do you ship your produce; is there no other port nearer to you at which produce might be shipped?—At Brisbane Town; I could ship at Limestone (in a punt) which is higher up the river; but it would not be nearer for me; there is a sufficient draft of water from Brisbane Town to Limestone, but there are some rocks in the river, which will require to be blasted.

6. Can you at all calculate what extent of ground you occupy for grazing purposes?—I have no accurate idea of the extent; my neighbours are my limits at present; the limits are determined by a ridge on three sides, and by an impassable mountain at the back.

7. Could you not form any computation as to the extent?—I think about eight miles square.

8. Is the soil very suitable for pastoral purposes?—Portions of it are so.

9. But is it adapted for sheep or cattle?—For both; but perhaps the nearer the coast the better for cattle.

10. What is the general size of your flocks?—What are called dry flocks we generally run to about from 800 to 1,100; on an average about 1,000; but in a flock of breeding sheep seldom more than 700.

11. What number of men do you employ to superintend your flocks generally?—One man as shepherd to the dry flock, and a hut-keeper attending two flocks in fold at home; the lambing flock requires another man occasionally.

12. What would be a fair average of men to attend 2,000 sheep?—About one man for every 700.

13. Do you discover any defects arising from running your flocks in such large numbers?—Yes, they do not get fat so soon in large as in small flocks; I find no other disadvantage, except as regards sheep for slaughter; the wool and health of the sheep are kept up.

14. Have you any difficulty in procuring the supply of labour you require on this calculation?—I have not as yet; I have imported almost all my servants; I have not depended on the Government Immigration.

15. Do you consider that that arrangement has been more advantageous to you than if you had been dependent upon a supply of Government labour?—Had the amount that was given for wages been the same now as when I commenced to import, I should have been a large gainer; but as the rate of wages has diminished I think on the whole I have been a loser.

16. Had you facilities greater than general in having labour sent out to you?—Yes, I had friends at home on whom I could rely; the labourers were mostly sent from my father's property; they were personally known, and had a wish to follow me; but where the men were not known my father had great difficulty in inducing them to come out, on account of the evil reports current concerning the colony; they were labourers at home, and readily learnt to become shepherds; about three months was sufficient to teach them.

17. Can you state what the general average of wages is in your district for shepherds?—At present the wages of a good shepherd are 18*l.* to 22*l.*, with rations, which consist of 10 pounds of meat, 10 pounds of flour, and tea, sugar, and tobacco, the value of which would be 18*l.* per year.

18. What proportion of that is the produce of your own farm, and what amount do you purchase?—As yet I have had no opportunity of growing wheat, or other agricultural produce.

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19. But do you contemplate hereafter raising produce on your own station?—Certainly.

20. Do you consider the climate of your district adapted for the growth of wheat?—I should say it was very well adapted for maize, and also for wheat, but there have hitherto been very few experiments tried.

21. Can you give the Committee any information as to the number of stations, and the quantity of land uncultivated to which your remarks refer?—From seven to ten stations; the land under cultivation is too inconsiderable to mention.

22. But, from your knowledge of the district, you have no doubt as to the productiveness of the soil?—It is most undoubtedly very productive.

23. Is the district subject to hot winds?—No; I have felt no hot winds during my residence there—about ten months including last summer.

24. Is the district sufficiently supplied with water?—Well supplied.

25. Do you consider that, upon the present system, the price of wool pays the expenses of an establishment, and leaves a remunerating sum besides to the wool grower?—It certainly does not pay the expenses of a new establishment; and if it does pay the expenses of an old one, which I doubt, there would be no surplus;—I speak of the wool.

26. Is there such a sale of the surplus stock as might make up the deficiency in the profit?—Hitherto there has been no sale at the Bay.

27. Is it in your power to suggest any measures likely to improve the present deficiency?—I think that a plentiful supply of labour would be the best method.

28. Have you likewise attended to the management of cattle?—I have in other districts, but my cattle have not yet arrived at Moreton Bay; they are now on the way.

29. Supposing your cattle there, and multiplying; how do you contemplate disposing of your surplus?—At Brisbane Town, and by salting; only two months in the year the heat would interfere with the process.

30. Of what nature do you consider the market at Brisbane Town will be?—I consider a market might be opened, both for consumption on the spot, and for exportation.

31. Have you calculated the expenses of a salting establishment, as compared to the profits to be derived from it?—I am not versed in that matter.

32. Are you sufficiently acquainted with the woods of the colony requisite to make casks?—The varieties of wood are very great, especially at Moreton Bay, and I think it very probable that some may be found fit for casks.

33. Do you consider that tobacco, sugar and coffee might be grown there?—Sugar and tobacco, I know, can be grown, but I am not acquainted with the culture of coffee; arrow-root grows extremely well; also maize, which is a very prolific crop; sweet potatoes, yams, bananas, grapes, oranges, and fruits of almost every description, are growing in the district at present.

34. Then you consider that the articles of export from Moreton Bay might be considerably increased?—I do.

35. What do you consider the chief disadvantages of the district?—The hostility of some of the aborigines, and hitherto the want of a market; I have myself, and all my neighbours, suffered from loss of sheep, and attacks from the aborigines.

36. Are they in considerable numbers in the district?—I should say there are about 1,000 in the whole district.

37. Has it been found possible to approach them, so as to hold communication with them, without danger?—It is after they have become used to our manners a little that they commence their attacks, and therefore it is safe always to keep them at a distance; so long as they remain ignorant of our weakness there is no danger.

38. Then you would consider at present all idea of improving their condition almost hopeless?—I think it hopeless.

39. Do you consider that the insecurity of the tenure of your station is an impediment to your making improvements?—Most certainly; we consider ourselves merely yearly occupants, having no security beyond the lease for a year.

40. Could you make any suggestion to improve the tenure of the station, and thereby the condition of the occupier?—I think by lengthening the lease to a period of five years, and leaving the terms of occupation the same as at present.

41. The Committee understand that the domestic arrangements on the stations in the interior are in a very imperfect state, owing to the shortness of the lisence; do you consider that extending the lease to five years would induce the occupiers to build good and substantial houses?—Certainly, if the improvements were taken off his hands at a valuation, at the expiration of the lease.

42. Supposing at the expiration of the lease, that no person was found to take the improvements at a valuation, might it not be more satisfactory if he were to become the purchaser of a small portion on which these improvements were made?—I should prefer extending the lease at the option of the lessee, with a proviso, that at the end of the extended period he should give up all claim to the land and improvements.

43. Might it not be more satisfactory if he were to become the purchaser of a small portion on which the improvements were made?—It might, were the price of land such as he could afford to give; but, at the present price of 1*l.* per acre, it would certainly not be in his power.

44. Would the difficulty be diminished, if, instead of paying at once, he was allowed to pay by instalments every year?—It certainly would, in a great degree, and render the occupier much more willing to purchase.

45. Do you think that the indisposition to purchase at present arises more from want of

of capital, or a fear that a realization will not be made?—More from the apprehension that it would not make an adequate return than from the want of capital.

46. Then is it to be concluded, if it could be promised that an advantageous return of the capital would follow, there would be no want of persons to embark?—I certainly think that there would not be any want of persons to embark the capital.

47. If the terms of payment were thus rendered completely easy, and a continued immigration kept up, so as to keep the price of labour at a moderate rate, may it be concluded that persons would be found willing to purchase to the limited extent that has been mentioned, even though the price were fixed at 1*l.* per acre?—Certainly not, with the present price of wool.

48. Do you not think, with all the advantages you have mentioned, that such a plan would be productive of advantages even independent of sheep farming?—Where the purchased land is near a market or water carriage it might possibly be productive.

49. Is the district calculated for small farms?—Many portions of the district are exceedingly well calculated for small farms.

50. Might not then the purchaser of a section sublet small portions of it to persons, and thereby remunerate himself considerably?—Provided his section would not interfere with his grazing establishment. I think, where the tenants are judiciously chosen, it would repay the proprietors by additional comforts, as well as in other respects.

51. Do you think the effect of such a plan would give too great facility to labourers to become occupiers of land, and consequently become employers of labour themselves?—I do not think so; I think there is a sufficient check to prevent their being employers. I do not think it would at that price give any undue facility; besides their services would not be lost.

52. Under present circumstances, what prospect can a labouring man entertain of ever raising himself above that condition?—At present his prospects are very slight; it is morally impossible that he should become a proprietor.

53. Are you aware in what manner they dispose of any surplus or savings from their wages?—Those who are prudent either deposit it in the savings bank, or in the hands of their employers, at interest.

54. Speaking only of prudent persons, do you think they would be willing to embark their money in the purchase of land, if facilities were afforded them?—Those who had any trade to depend upon besides the land would certainly do so, but not mere labourers.

55. Should you not consider it preferable to have people scattered about your district, than the desolation, if it may be so called, by which you are at present surrounded?—I think it would be a great advantage, and personal security would be greatly improved.

56. Might it not afford a greater opening for moral and religious improvement than at present exists?—Most certainly.

57. You say there are 10 stations at Moreton Bay, do you include the Darling Downs—are you aware how many stations there are on the Downs?—The 10 stations I have spoken of are exclusive of the Darling Downs; I should think there are 20 to 25; Brisbane is the outlet of the whole of that country.

58. Speaking of the seven to 10 stations, you have mentioned to be on this side the range, what quantity of land do you suppose to be occupied by them?—There are about 40,000 acres to each station, that is speaking vaguely; miles even are not computed.

59. Do you think it would be judicious to lock up so large a portion of land for five years, merely to sell from seven to 10 sections?—I see no other way in which the land could be made serviceable; it would be preferable to the present mode of sale.

60. But if there were the power to put up a section, do you think persons would purchase?—I think not, at present prices, except in the immediate neighbourhood of towns.

61. You infer, then, that without a sheep station, persons would not purchase?—Certainly.

62. If that land was liable to be put up for sale at the end of the lease, would persons make improvements?—No, I certainly think not; my opinion is founded on the presumption that the land would become their own, without competition, at a moderate price.

63. Do you think if they were guaranteed the value of the improvements at the expiration of the lease, would persons be willing to enter into the arrangements spoken of?—If they were aware of that, they would improve, but not make permanent improvements to the same extent.

64. But as relates to improving the country, both morally and physically, you have no doubt the system would be advantageous?—I have no doubt that, both morally and physically, the plan would be advantageous.

65. Do you think that would be a preferable mode to selling as much land as he chose, at such a price as would remunerate the purchaser, and enable him to carry out his improvements?—I think it would perhaps afford the settler a better chance of purchasing than the speculator, as no one would be likely to rent a sheep station who had not the stock.

66. What price do you think a settler can afford to give for land for sheep farming?—About 2*s.* 6*d.* per acre.

67. Do you think that any one on such an uncertain tenure would be likely to advance money to make improvements?—The value of the improvements being guaranteed by Government, the lender would, to the extent of that guarantee, advance money, but would not advance so much as if the settler owned the property.

68. Do you understand it to be contemplated that the holder of land upon this proposed system is to be at liberty to put up the section to auction at the ordinary price in the first instance?

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E. Mackenzie, Esq.

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instance?—I do, for sale, but not by auction; there is no uncertainty, except as to whether the settler shall retain the land or not.

69. What are the facilities for building in the district?—Brick earth, stone, lime, and timber are plentiful; coal is also to be obtained, and timber for fencing; coal is found near Limestone, and elsewhere in the district.

70. Do you consider that the permission to import coolies would tend to improve your condition in Moreton Bay, both physically and morally?—I think it would, decidedly; I do not think that it would tend to produce immorality; on the other hand, they would be improved.

71. Do you not think that the present low price of stock, and the facility of obtaining it, ought to operate as an inducement to persons to come out and invest their capital in it?—In the present state of the country, I am of opinion that the uncertainty of obtaining labour more than counterbalances the inducement held out by the low price of stock.

72. Then you are of opinion that a loan should be obtained for the purpose of introducing a supply of labour?—Yes, provided the interest of the loan be paid by the proceeds of the sale of land. Indeed, I think that the first thing requisite to relieve us, unless coolie labour be introduced, which might be effected without a loan.

Thursday, 21*st July* 1842.

FREDERICK OGILVIE Esq., of the Clarence River, called in, and examined.

F. Ogilvie, Esq.

21st July 1842.

1. YOU have been many years conversant with the system of settling and sheep farming in this colony?—Yes, I may say all my life; in the concerns of my father, who is the owner of considerable property, and likewise holder of lands beyond the boundaries, in several districts; latterly I have been engaged in similar pursuits on my own account.

2. In what district is the land principally situated which you occupy on lease?—Clarence River.

3. What distance is that from Sydney?—About 250 miles by water.

4. Is it in that mode that you chiefly communicate with Sydney?—Entirely.

5. Where do you ship your produce?—At the Clarence River.

6. At what distance from the mouth of the Clarence?—About 25 miles in a straight direction from the coast.

7. What size vessel can come that distance up the river?—The largest vessel that has ever been up was about 150 tons, but she did not then either come in or go out with full cargo.

8. Is there a bar at the mouth, and if so, what depth of water is on it?—The shallowest part is within the bar, where at high tide there is about nine feet water.

9. How long have you been in the habit of shipping wool at that port to Sydney?—Two seasons.

10. Have you found reasonable facility in doing it, so that you would be encouraged to go on?—I have found much facility.

11. What number of stations are there connected with your family on which you have control?—Eleven stations, extending about 14 miles along the river, and in depth about an average of from two miles to two miles and a half on each side.

12. Is the soil in that district peculiarly fit for sheep or agriculture, or what purpose?—There are portions fit for each purpose; some for sheep, some for cattle, and some for agriculture; most of the upper part of the river is not very rich, and is fitter for sheep than cattle; nearer the mouth of the river there is rich alluvial land, which will be found very valuable for agriculture.

13. Is it a country which admits of the sheep being in large flocks?—No, not to the same degree as interior districts, there being a good deal of wooded and broken ground.

14. What do you consider your average number?—From 600 to 1,100 or 1,200; but sheep are capable of being run in much larger flocks in new countries than in those places which have been longer stocked, in consequence of the grass not having been eaten off, and there being a better selection open.

15. What number of men do you consider necessary for the management of a flock of 1,000 sheep?—One man, with half the labour of another man; that is, three men to two flocks, or about 1,600 or 1,800 sheep, exclusive of men raising and conveying food: many others are required on particular occasions.

16. Could you calculate what would be the number you require, including all these things?—To between 12,000 and 13,000 sheep we have 30 men.

17. Do you raise any agricultural produce on which you employ these men?—Yes; we have brought into cultivation this year about 12 acres, but this quantity is not sufficient to supply the wants of the station.

18. This would give then, for all purposes connected with sheep, about one man for every 400 sheep?—From the beginning of August to the end of December, we require extra hands for lambing and shearing; for the latter, for about two months, we require 10 or 12 extra hands, and for the former, about four or five.

19. Do you raise the whole of your agricultural supplies on the station?—With the number of men I have employed hitherto, I have not been able to bring a sufficient number of acres into cultivation, but I intend to cultivate more, and anticipate in good seasons to be able nearly to do so, but in bad ones we shall be obliged to purchase.

20. Would extra hands be necessary for that purpose?—I think that that number would be sufficient.

21. Do you find any difficulty in obtaining the supply of labour you require for your

operations?—I have not for the last 18 months found any difficulty in hiring men in Sydney, and defraying the expense of their conveyance to the Clarence River.

22. Has it been at a reduced rate of wages compared with those given before that period?—Yes, decidedly reduced.

23. What do you consider to be the present rate of wages for shepherds, farm labourers, and useful men of every description?—Twenty pounds per annum, with rations, but rather smaller than formerly; the ration now given and purchased by us, is 10 pounds of flour, at 3*d.* per pound,—2*s.* 6*d*; one pound of sugar, 6*d.*; two ounces tea, 4½*d.*; and salt, 1*d.*; that not purchased, is 10 pounds meat, at 2*d.* per pound,—1*s.* 8*d.*; or a total cost of between 13*l.* and 14*l.* per annum, supposing flour to be plentiful, and consequently cheap; I have paid as much as 50*l.* per ton, besides freight and other charges in the transport of it from Sydney to the Clarence.

24. Do you consider, at the present price of wool, and the facilities afforded for disposing of your surplus stock, that sheep farming is advantageous?—I think that persons giving their whole attention, and with frugality, can (after they have once formed their stations) maintain them within the amount derivable from the wool; whether they receive a per centage for their capital must depend upon the price which can be procured for the surplus stock; this of course only applies to those whose capital is already sunk in the business; I have no doubt that purchasing sheep at the present reduced prices would be a profitable investment, supposing the management of the business to be afterwards conducted with the care which I have before alluded to.

25. Do you consider, if, instead of occupying the land under yearly lease, it were proposed to purchase it, that it would be advantageous?—I think that would depend on the price at which it was proposed to sell the land; supposing persons were required to purchase a whole extent of run, I do not think they could afford to give any price approaching the lowest minimum price at which land has ever been sold in this country; if they were to purchase only water frontage commanding a back run, then they might perhaps afford to give 5*s.* per acre.

26. Must they not be better circumstanced now that they possess both the water frontage and the back run, without the necessity for any such outlay of capital?—There are some disadvantages in squatting, viz., constant danger of being turned out; the uncertain tenure under which the stations are held prevents people from making improvements which would otherwise be very profitable; and the expense and loss sustained in moving is very considerable.

27. What extent of land in your own case would suffice for making the improvements you speak of, which you are now unable to do from the uncertainty of tenure?—If the question merely refer to the improvements of a homestead, I should say that 640 acres would be sufficient, but I doubt whether a person occupying such a small portion would find it to his interest to make expensive improvements, unless he were secure of a sufficient run for his cattle at the same time, as in case of his being obliged to remove his stock to a distance he could not remain there with profit to himself.

28. Suppose a system which secured the occupation of the run for a certain number of years limited, upon the present terms, and subject to the assessment on stock, and enabling you to obtain the ownership of such ground as would secure the buildings, would that in any degree obviate the difficulty of which you speak?—It would depend much on the number of years for which the land would be secured.

29. Can you mention what you would consider the shortest period for which it would answer your purpose to obtain the land securely?—I should think 14 years would be the shortest; any longer period would of course be more advantageous.

30. As that would enable you to keep the greater part of your capital in your hand, would you consider it more advantageous than allowing you to purchase at 5*s.* per acre?—I think it would be more advantageous; but the question being new to me, and presenting many different points of view, I am unable to give a decided opinion.

31. Do you consider that the introduction of such a system might induce many persons to embark in sheep speculation, and so afford the old settlers a market for their stock?—I have no doubt, as such a system would be a very great improvement on the present one, that it would have that effect.

32. If it should effect an increased sale of your surplus stock, would that not be what is principally now wanting to render sheep farming profitable to the owners of flocks?—Decidedly so.

33. Would it encourage the residence of proprietors on the grazing stations more than at present?—I think it would, though a large proportion of proprietors of stock do now reside on their stations; I think it would also have the effect of making them be more constantly on the spot, and would make them settle themselves in a more comfortable manner.

34. Do you think that the present system is favourable to the social, moral, and physical condition of the people beyond the boundaries?—As the sale of spirits is entirely prohibited in all the interior districts, one of the strongest incentives to vice is removed; from the necessarily scattered state of an entirely pastoral population, there is of course but little means of education, but the number of children in those districts is small.

35. Are you aware of the proportion of males and females in the district at this time?—The disproportion is very great, but I am not aware of the amount.

36. With reference to the navigation of the Clarence, has it ever been considered by you or others, that by an outlay of money the river might be made more navigable?—I am

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P. Ogilvie, Esq.

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am not acquainted with the subject, nor have I ever had any conversation with persons competent to form an opinion.

37. What materials have you for building purposes at the Clarence?—There is free-stone in many places, and I think plenty of brick earth might be procured; there are also the same kinds of wood as are found in other parts of the country, though the cedar is now nearly all cut; there are plenty of shells at the mouth of the river, but I have not seen limestone; there are pine bushes in places.

Wednesday, 27th July 1842.

ALFRED ROBERT DENISON Esq., of Cassilis, called in, and examined.

A. R. Denison, Esq.

27th July 1842.

1. IN what part of the colony are you settled?—My purchased land is at Cassilis, under Liverpool Range; and my out stations are on Melville Plains, about 12 miles from the Namoi River.

2. Are you an extensive proprietor of flocks and herds?—Yes.

3. You employ, of course, a considerable number of persons in the capacity of shepherds and stockmen?—Between 40 and 50 hands of different descriptions; I had more.

4. Have you diminished the number in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining men, or the increase of wages?—I did not reduce the number on account of either of these causes; some men I dismissed on the completion of buildings and wells upon which they had been employed; others I dismissed in consequence of extensive losses of sheep, which rendered the continuance of their services unnecessary. With a view to reduce my expenditure, I have also increased the number of sheep in my flocks, so as to diminish the number of men required for their attendance.

5. You state you have not decreased your establishment on account of the difficulty in obtaining as many men as you desire; can you do so at satisfactory wages?—For the last two months I have been able to obtain men at tolerably satisfactory wages; but I am still giving higher than I can well afford to give; 20*l.* per annum is the utmost which I ought to give in justice to myself; and I consider that these are wages amply remunerative to the labourer.

6. What do you value the rations at?—I estimate the rations of a man at about 17*l.* per annum.

7. In that calculation, how do you estimate the portion of the produce of the farm given in the ration?—The produce of the farm is only meat, which I calculate at a certain rate.

8. What proportion in money do you estimate that produce to bear to the cost of the whole ration?—The actual outlay in money is about two thirds; thus the meat costs about 6*l.* the other parts 10*l.* 10*s.* I would take this opportunity of observing, that the whole system of rations ought to be got rid of; the waste consequent upon it is excessive; the master might have his stores so well supplied as to be able to furnish his men at a low rate, and so remove that necessity for the continuance of the system which the absence of retail shops might otherwise require.

9. Supposing the price of meat to remain as at present, and labour to rise above its present rate, under such circumstances do you consider that sheep farming could be carried on to advantage?—By squatters it might be, but certainly not by those who have purchased land—because there is no market for surplus stock.

10. Do you mean then, that if land were obtained upon easier terms than you obtained it, and stock were sold at a lower rate, it would be worth while for persons to engage in sheep farming?—It would depend on the terms on which land was procured; it can never be profitable to buy land at any price to feed stock, that is, to buy the entire quantity over which the sheep are to graze; I am speaking in reference to present circumstances, and from such experience as during a residence of two years I have been able to gain.

11. Your district has been visited by drought during the last two years, which has not been the case in other districts?—It has been the case with the whole northern parts of the colony.

12. Have you sustained great losses in consequence of those droughts?—Yes, I have.

13. Do you include that circumstance among those which may be considered as the fixed causes which render sheep farming unprofitable?—It is one amongst the causes.

14. Do you consider that the wool would pay the expenses of the sheep, including the interest on the purchase-money of both land and sheep?—Certainly not.

15. What do you assume to have been the prices given for land, sheep, and cattle?—I am speaking of the price given by myself, viz., 15*s.* per acre for land, 17*s.* for sheep, and 5*l.* per head for cattle.

16. The prices are at present merely nominal?—They are.

17. If stock were readily saleable at the prices mentioned by you, do you consider there would then be a profit?—I should say so.

18. Would these prices admit of any reduction, and yet leave profit?—I am not prepared with any calculation on that subject.

19. Would it not be necessary also, that the price of land should be reduced in like proportion?—Certainly, in order to leave a profit to the purchaser.

20. Have you found any difficulty in teaching the immigrants to be shepherds?—No; the occupation of a shepherd is readily learnt; it merely requires a little attention.

Wednesday,

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The Hon. C. D. Riddell, Esq.

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The Honourable C. D. Riddell Esq., Colonial Treasurer, called in, and examined.

1. THE Committee would wish to learn the opinion formed by you, from your observation of the progress of land sales, as to the prospect of obtaining a revenue during the next 12 months from that source?—I think with regard to grazing land in the colony there is very little chance of raising much revenue at the present minimum price. I think some revenue should be obtained from good suburban land, if such exist in the neighbourhood of Brisbane Town.

2. Have you calculated what minimum price would be such as to render it profitable to a person to become the purchaser of a large extent for grazing purposes?—I have made some calculations, though not any very precise; I have been informed by very competent authorities, and I am myself disposed to think, that the average quantity of land required to feed one sheep is not less than from three to five acres; the actual value of purchased grazing land, estimated by the profit derived from it, must therefore be very small; but there are many persons, wishing to purchase land for the sake of forming a property, who would give more than its actual value for grazing purposes, but who would not give a price so utterly unremunerating as the present minimum.

3. Then do you consider that the present minimum price acts as a total prohibition to the sale of land?—I do, at the present time.

4. Are you enabled to state what quantity of land has been actually sold at that rate, during the last 12 months, in quantities of a section and upwards?—The Return which I made some time ago, by desire of the Committee, shows that there have been advertised for sale, at 12*s.* per acre, about 132,353 acres in all parts of the colony; and at prices higher than 12*s.*, 7,996, making a total of 140,349. Of those put up at a higher rate than 12*s.*, 507 acres were purchased for 1,392*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*, being for the most part suburban allotments in the neighbourhood of Sydney. If this sum is deducted from the whole amount obtained for land during the last year, 5,515*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.*, a balance of 4,122*l.* 7*s.* remains; but from this a further sum of 521*l.* 2*s.* must be deducted, as deposits to the extent of 57*l.* 18*s.* appear to have been forfeited, thus leaving a balance of only 3,601*l.* 5*s.* received for land put up at the minimum of 12*s.* per acre, during the year, from the 30th June 1841 to the 30th June 1842. Out of the number of acres put up at 12*s.*, viz., 132,353, only 5,644 were actually disposed of; and of these only three lots equalled or exceeded a section, the others averaging from 17 to 372 acres each.

5. Do you see any prospect of a revival of demand for grazing lands?—Not if wool continues at its present price, and labour be at as high a rate as it now is.

6. Do you see any prospect of a revenue from the sale of suburban and town allotments?—I do; in the neighbourhood of Brisbane. From the last sale there appeared to be a competition amongst monied men and speculators, and the prices bid were very good. I have, however, since heard that those who purchased, without being acquainted with the locality, are discontented with their bargains, and that deposits to a considerable amount will be forfeited in consequence.

7. Can you form any approximate estimate of the whole amount likely to be realized during the next 12 months, from the sale of every description of lands in all parts of the colony?—I am not aware of the extent which will be put up; and even if I had this information I could form no estimate.

8. Putting out of the question the description of persons you have spoken of, who might give more for land than its actual worth, for the sake of profit by its re-sale, can you fix any limit to which the minimum price must be reduced, to encourage persons who look merely to a return for their capital to become large purchasers?—No, I cannot fix any limit; people who merely look to a return for their capital will rather squat beyond the boundaries than purchase at any time.

9. If the minimum were reduced to 5*s.*, or 2*s.* 6*d.*, or 1*s.*, or any other price you may fix upon, would it then suit persons to become purchasers for grazing purposes, bearing in mind that, as you say, it would take from three to five acres to keep a sheep?—I should say that if the price were reduced to 1*s.* it might answer to purchase, in preference to squatting; but it would not answer to purchase at 5*s.* the whole quantity required; people might be found to purchase head or home stations, but they could not purchase their whole grazing land at that rate.

10. Do you suppose then, that if the upset price were fixed at 5*s.*, persons would engage in sheep farming, and thus afford a market for the surplus stock?—I think so to a great extent. I am credibly informed that there is a great deal of money now in the banks, which would be laid out in the purchase of land, if it were to be obtained at any thing like a remunerating price.

11. You mean then, that if such parties could obtain land at 5*s.* it would be worth their while to purchase stock, and this would create a demand for sheep and cattle which does not now exist?—I think it would; it would create a demand for stock which does not now exist; not that persons would purchase the entire quantity of land required to feed their stock, but they would purchase to a considerable extent.

12. How then do you account for it, that that demand for stock does not exist where persons may obtain land beyond the boundaries, at a price even below 5*s.*?—They are two different classes of people; the money of which I am speaking belongs to individuals not now colonists, but who are supposed to be willing to make a permanent investment of capital in the colony.

13. Suppose that the squatter could obtain a property in some portion for his land, at a price

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price the Government might fix, would not that bring about sales?—... ...e that they would purchase a certain portion of the land on which their stations are, for the purpose of making improvements and rendering themselves more comfortable.

14. You assume that they would not purchase the whole extent they occupy, yet they would be willing to purchase such portion as would secure their buildings and other improvements?—I should think that if Government were now to allow squatters to purchase at 5*s.*, a very large sum would be realized.

15. Do you not think that the ability to become proprietor of a certain portion of the run, and thus to effect improvements without risk of losing the cost of them, would encourage capitalists to lend their money to squatters to carry on their operations?—Any person possessed of well chosen land could raise money to a certain extent to enable him to carry on his operations. The fee-simple of a certain portion of run would be very valuable as being a fixed property.

16. If in addition to the purchase of a part a lease were given for a certain number of years of the remainder of the run, would not the effect of that be to create a market for the increase of stock?—To a limited extent it would, if a lease were given for a certain number of years.

17. Are you aware that a difficulty, amounting almost to an impossibility, now exists on the part of the owners of stock in disposing of their surplus?—I am aware of it.

18. As you say that the measure just referred to would encourage persons of capital to connect themselves with such establishments, would it not seem to follow that this would create the demand for surplus stock, which you say does not now exist?—If any capital not at present laid out in stock could be brought into operation it would certainly create a demand for stock, limited to the extent of the capital so to be laid out.

19. If investment of capital upon such terms would be profitable, and the demand for wool at the present price may be assumed capable of an indefinite increase, upon what grounds do you assume that the disposition to invest capital in this manner would be so limited?—It was not the investment of capital to which I alluded, but to the demand for surplus stock. The stations are most of them stocked already, and many parties occupying those stations are suffering from a want of sale for their surplus stock.

20. Do you believe that the country is now as full of sheep as it will admit of?—That I would not venture to say, but large graziers are stopping the increase of their flocks.

21. But as you admit that the plan suggested would make this application of capital beneficial, and that there is still government land unoccupied, which might be covered with sheep, why should there be a limit to the demand for sheep?—I conceive that sheep farming does not pay at the present price of wool, price of labour, and want of sale for surplus stock; though perhaps purchases might be made, as I have already mentioned, I do not think that even then it would be so profitable as to induce people to send capital into the country to be so embarked, unless they could at the same time secure a permanent interest for their families in the land of the colony.

22. Do you suppose that the demand for stock has reached its limit, and what measures would you propose to revive it?—I think it has reached its limit at this moment at the present price of land; but I think if the price of land could be lowered, and so the introduction of capital into the country be encouraged, the price of stock would be immediately raised.

23. But have you not stated you doubt whether any lowering of the minimum price that could take place would have the effect of inducing persons to become purchasers?—I think that the graziers in the country are so depressed that they would not be purchasers, but monied immigrants would come in with a view to purchase; the price of land at 5*s.* per acre being known in England would, I feel persuaded, induce capitalists to emigrate, and invest their capital in land and stock.

24. Do you consider then that purchasing land at 5*s.* an acre, with a view to put sheep and stock upon it, is a profitable investment?—No; but if monied immigrants could be induced to purchase land, they would then have to purchase stock also, which would create a demand for sheep and cattle which does not now exist.

25. Would not this create a revival of the demand for, and consequently tend to raise the price of stock, so as to render the investment of capital in stock profitable?—I am decidedly of opinion that it would.

26. To whom do you mean that the rise in the price of stock would be profitable?—To the present graziers.

27. Would that form part of the inducement which would arise to persons of capital to come from England?—I think not; they would look to their own profits only, and not to the interests of the present graziers.

28. Would not the knowledge of the prosperity of this colony induce capitalists in England to come out?—Most undoubtedly; it has done so before.

29. Do you think that a general impression of the prosperity of this colony would induce parties to bring their capital, unless they saw a reasonable prospect of prospering themselves?—No; but I think that a general belief of its prosperity entertained at home would induce capitalists to emigrate, whether they invested their capital in stock or land, or in any other profitable investment.

30. Do you think that the expectations of those who have come out under the impression that the colony was prospering have been answered?—Not latterly, because they came out without a knowledge of the depression now existing; when they left England the colony was supposed to be in a state of prosperity.

31. Do you think if those capitalists, who arrived two years ago, and who you say have been

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being disappointed, had delayed their arrival to the present time, they would have had a better prospect of success, with reference to the present prices of land and stock, and supposing that they became squatters, and did not purchase land?—I think they would, because they would have made their purchases at lower prices, and so been enabled to keep part of their capital entire to meet the difficulties of the times, without running into debt; and thus, when any improvement takes place, which I sincerely hope may be the case before long, they can turn it to immediate advantage.

Wednesday, 27th July 1842.

LACHLAN MACALISTER Esq. called in, and examined.

L. Macalister, Esq.

27th July 1842.

1. You are extensively engaged in sheep farming?—Yes, and cattle farming also.

2. You have stations in the district of Corner Inlet?—I have.

3. Do you find any difficulty in obtaining labour in that remote part of the colony?—I am obliged to send labourers from here, and have much difficulty in getting them down; I have also to pay their expenses.

4. Have you been able to obtain labour at a moderate rate at Corner Inlet?—No.

5. What wages do you give shepherds and labourers there?—I have none at less than from 24*l.* to 30*l.* per annum, and some few at 32*l.*

6. Does that include families?—I have only one family.

7. Is there any demand for stock in that district?—It depends on the market in Van Diemen's Land, where there is now a market; I have a vessel plying between Corner Inlet and Hobart Town with fat sheep and cattle.

8. Do you obtain remunerating prices for them in that market?—Such as have been sent have brought very fair prices; about 14*l.* per head has been obtained for bullocks, and I have some for which I am led to expect 17*l.*

9. Do you find that you can still undersell the grasier of Van Diemen's Land?—Assuredly we can; Van Diemen's Land has been overstocked for the last 14 years; they must provide artificial food.

10. Have you raised any grain in the district of Corner Inlet?—I have a crop in the ground this year for the first time.

11. Are you enabled to state whether it is favourable to the growth of grain generally?—It is impossible that it can be surpassed either in this colony or Van Diemen's Land.

12. Have your opportunities of observation in Van Diemen's Land been such as to enable you to judge of it?—I was in Van Diemen's Land for 18 months in the army, and subsequently I visited it, I think in 1837, and travelled across the country from Port Dalrymple to Hobart Town.

13. And from what you saw there, and also from past experience, you come to the conclusion that wheat may be raised as plentifully at Corner Inlet as in any part of Van Diemen's Land?—Assuredly, and in immense tracts of it; there is a larger tract of land there available for agriculture than I have seen any where in the colony.

14. How long have you had stations in that part of the country?—For better than two years.

15. Has there been any drought there during the period that it prevailed in other parts of the colony?—There has been none there since my cattle went down in 1839.

16. Is the district well watered?—It is.

17. Could you describe how it is watered?—The district is bounded to the northward and westward, and south-west, by the Australian Alps, the summits of which are covered with snow; these mountains give rise to six considerable streams, or rather rivers, and each of them navigable from 10 to 15 miles, from a very large fresh water navigable lake, called Lake Victoria, by Mr. Angus MacMillan, who first explored that part of the country in January 1840. These streams in the driest seasons run perpetually, in consequence of the melting of the snow on the mountains.

18. What is the extent of the district?—I think about 70 miles in length, and 30 to 40 miles in depth.

19. Do you state, then, that the greater portion of it is fit for agricultural purposes?—A great portion of it; on the banks of the rivers there is rich alluvial land, without either a tree or stone on it, and immediately fit for the plough, without any expense of clearing, exclusively of large tracts of brush land of the richest description.

20. Is the alluvial soil of considerable depth?—Of a very considerable depth; I know an instance of a native boy digging 14 feet; the soil to that depth was alluvial.

21. Are there many stations in that district?—Only 11 or 12.

22. Are they all abundantly supplied with labour, or does the great want of labour still prevail?—The want still prevails; the people who came out with Mr. Macdonnell of Glengarry, when discharged from his employment after he had disposed of his stock, obtained higher wages than those given by him.

23. Do you think, if it were thrown open to purchase, that much of the land would sell?—I have no doubt of it; the water carriage is so convenient; I can receive supplies in that district at a cheaper rate than at my residence at Clifton, 45 miles by land from Sydney.

24. In what manner are supplies conveyed to that district?—By water from Sydney; sometimes from Melbourne; vessels drawing from 11 to 12 feet can go in at low water; I think that a vessel of any size could enter at high water.

25. Do you think that land would sell readily in that district at the present minimum price?—A considerable quantity would sell for agricultural purposes, if its quality was sufficiently known, but not for grazing.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

L. Macalister, Esq.

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26. Do you think that there would be sufficient land in that district to raise grain enough to supply the present population of New South Wales?—I should certainly say that in that district might be grown as much wheat as is now grown in Van Diemen's Land.

27. Suppose it were proposed to raise a loan of 500,000*l.* for the purpose of introducing, within seven or eight years, an industrious agricultural population into that district, do you think, from your knowledge of the value of land, that security might be given upon the land in that district, for the regular payment of interest at five per cent. on that loan, and the repayment of the principal within a limited number of years?—I have no doubt that the land in the district would afford ample security; some of it, were sufficient labour introduced, would let for 1*l.* per acre, and the produce would afford an ample remunerative return to the tenant.

28. Will you enumerate, as far as you are able, the several kinds of produce which you consider could be advantageously raised in that district, and what market might be found for them when raised?—It would produce wheat, oats, barley, rye, potatoes, clover, lucerne, and all artificial grasses; turnips and all vegetables grown in England; all European fruits might also, I am persuaded, be grown there with advantage; for grain, Sydney would afford a market; and Van Diemen's Land would take the stock. The country is also admirably calculated for dairy-farms, the sward of natural pastures being extremely rich, and the milk yielding an unusual quantity of butter. I may have seen as good land in Ireland, but never in Scotland. The country is full of game, kangaroos, emues, wild turkeys, geese, &c.; there is likewise abundance of fish in the lake and harbour.

29. Have you turned your thoughts to the possibility of forming establishments there for the purpose of salting and exporting beef and pork?—I have taken it into consideration, and it was my intention to commence a salting establishment on a very large scale, but the imported salt beef has been selling at so low a rate, that it has been more profitable to send the stock alive to Van Diemen's Land.

30. What do you mean by the harbour of Corner Inlet?—It is an immense sheet of water, having, I suppose, about 100 islands in it; it is about 30 miles one way, and four or five the other.

31. Is there depth of water in the Inlet itself for ships to enter the harbour, and room for them to swing at anchor when they are in?—Abundance of room for vessels drawing 11 or 12 feet, even at low water; the tide rises 10 feet.

32. Have you ever had the opportunity of hearing the opinion of a naval man upon the recommendation of the harbour?—I have had the opinion of two masters of vessels who were there; they state that the entrance is perfectly safe for vessels drawing 11 or 12 feet water, at any time of the tide, and that at high water vessels of large tonnage could enter; the anchorage within the bar affords security for vessels of any size; it is considered a better and safer harbour than Port Phillip.

Thursday, 28th July 1842.

Sir Thomas Livingstone Mitchell Knight, Surveyor General, called in, and examined.

Sir T. L. Mitchell.

28th July 1842.

1. The Committee are desirous of obtaining from you information as to the prospects of the Land Fund during the next twelve months; can you form any estimate of the probable amount?—It is impossible for me to do so, as I am not at all aware what price his Excellency the Governor may fix upon any land which may be put up for sale.

2. Is there any probability of any large portion of grazing ground being sold during that period?—I should say it was not at all likely.

3. To what cause do you attribute the falling off in the demand for land?—To the present embarrassed affairs of those engaged in sheep speculations.

4. Do you think that portions of agricultural lands are likely to be sold?—I am afraid not; I have one particular reason for making this answer; the pressure of the times will bring into the market a quantity of eligible and improved lands, already in private hands, which will of course be purchased in preference to the wholly unimproved lands remaining in the hands of the government. I would suggest, as a means of effecting some sales in the mean time, that such lands as are measured and ready for sale should be put up at the minimum price of 12*s.* per acre, which might be tempting to speculators now, whilst the colonists are under the impression that a permanent value is to be given to all lands in the colony by Act of Parliament, of either 1*l.* or 2*l.* per acre.

5. Do you consider that, when such a price has been fixed, there will be a demand for land?—I think the permanency of price is likely to enhance, after a time, the value of land in general.

6. From your experience in the colony, do you consider the ordinary lands to be worth 1*l.* per acre?—I do not; I look to the return for the interest of money, and how it is derivable from the land; and doing so, I cannot see how it can make a return adequate to the purchase price of 1*l.* per acre. Whether I am right in fixing a value from immediate prospects of a return from the land may be questionable, as the purchasers of land in these new colonies seem all, more or less, to speculate on the future value; and which, reviewing the progress of the colony, until now, cannot, perhaps, be termed wholly an imaginary value, if its future prosperity were sure, or likely to be like the past.

7. Do you allude merely to grazing lands, or to lands for other purposes?—I allude to both kinds of land. The purchaser of either looks to its becoming ultimately valuable for other purposes; the arable land for subdivision, and the purposes of increased population; the pasture land to be finally peopled and cultivated.

8. Would

8. Would not the effect of fixing so high an upset price be to render the great bulk of lands in the colony unsaleable for an indefinite period?—It would.

9. Measuring the value of the land by the return which it will yield at 1*l.* per acre, do you consider that under such circumstances, parties with capital would be induced to emigrate from England to the colony?—It seems to me very doubtful that they would, if land is not to be had for less than 1*l.* per acre.

10. What effect do you consider the low upset price of land, which prevailed from 1831 to 1838, had in inducing the parties to emigrate to the colony?—It seemed to increase immigration progressively; at least the sales increased; I am far from taking the sales of land however as a test of the increase of immigration, as much of the lands sold were purchased by old settlers. I do not think the low price had any direct effect in increasing immigration, but I have little doubt that the raising the price from 5*s.* to 12*s.* an acre has tended much to check that immigration which was setting towards Australia when I was in London. To the numbers of emigrants who consulted me there, my advice constantly was, "Avoid competition at sales—there is abundance of land; give no more than 5*s* per acre;" and I have had the mortification to meet such persons in the colony complaining of the sudden rise in the price; and have witnessed the return to England of whole families who came here to settle.

11. Were not the old settlers enabled to purchase land, by having a ready sale for their surplus stock, to persons arriving with capital?—I think the high price of wool was the chief source of their means of purchase, together with the cheapness of labour; they had the means then of improving the land. Much land had been given to whoever had 500*l.* ready for the improvement of each square mile so given, when convict labour was also available for that purpose; now the buyer of a square mile must part with at least 500*l.*, and has no convict labour for improving it. The money goes out of the country to pay for the introduction of many non-productive consumers, as women and children are for the most part, thereby increasing the necessity at present for sending more money still out of the country to bring wheat, potatoes, &c. from other countries for their present maintenance, however much such additional population may finally become productive.

12. Was not the principal source of profit to the grazier from the sale of his surplus stock rather than from that of his wool?—That was another source of profit, and I believe very considerable.

13. Supposing that a loan were to be raised, do you consider that the extent of unalienated lands in the colony would afford security to a considerable amount for such a loan to be applied to the purposes of immigration?—I very much doubt whether it would, without a better prospect of making those public improvements necessary for bringing land into the market at present prices than exists at present.

14. To what public improvements do you chiefly allude?—The formation of harbours, construction of bridges, opening of roads, the stumping and burning off wood for the purpose of opening streets in towns, the farmers requiring a market, to which towns there must necessarily be roads; it seems to me quite clear, that without such works being effected, at least in some parts, first, the lands could not be sold in such manner as to afford support to even an agricultural community.

15. Can you suggest any measures by means of which such improvements could be effected?—By the introduction of labourers.

16. Supposing it were determined to establish a system of periodical land sales, can you inform the committee of the extent and general description of land, which, in your opinion, might be brought forward at such sales within the next twelve months?—There are many portions which could be brought forward; but I cannot at present state to what extent, as so much ineligible land in this country is interposed between the spots which would be eligible to purchase.

17. But speaking in general terms, you suppose that a considerable extent of average land might be surveyed and offered for sale within the next twelve months?—I think so; but wherever I look, I find the construction of a bridge or the opening of a road requisite to render it saleable, or even accessible.

18. You have stated in a former answer, that you anticipate very small land sales, owing to the quantity of good and improved lands in private hands, which you expect must soon be forced into the market?—I have.

19. Do you not think it might be advisable that the Crown should abstain from endeavouring to make any considerable sales, until the excess in the hands of private individuals is to a certain extent absorbed?—I think it would be rather in favour of the present colonists to do so, supposing there were purchasers to buy the land at 1*l.* per acre.

20. When that absorption has taken place to such an extent as to remove the now existing inducement to sell private property at a reduced rate, will the natural tendency be to direct the attention of buyers to government lands again, and to encourage by degrees the purchase of them at the higher minimum price, which it is expected will be fixed?—I think it would.

21. You understand by excess of land, that individuals have more land than they can use?—I understand you to mean more land than there are purchasers for; or that the excess exceeds the demand.

22. Is it not a fact that there is three or four times more land used for grazing purposes than has been alienated by the Crown?—At least sixty times as much.

23. Can you say what effect the raising of the minimum price of land by the Government has had on the landed property of the settlers?—I do not think that it has had any effect, at least on the value of cultivation lands, which depended chiefly on the improvements made

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made upon them; but the mere grazing lands purchased at 5*s.* an acre were of course saleable at a higher figure.

24. To what, then, do you attribute the present depressed state of the settlers?—To various causes: the sending so much money out of the country as 800,000*l.* to increase the consumers of an article in part brought from South America; the sudden deprivation of convict labour; the great fall in prices of wool; and, as I have understood, from excess of commercial shipments. I should say too, that the raising of the price of land was another cause; the raising of the upset price from 5*s.* to 12*s.* per acre I consider to have had a very injurious effect in checking that emigration of persons with money, which might have fructified in the colony.

25. Do you not think that the diminution of the commissariat or government expenditure in the colony has likewise materially affected the interests of the producers?—In alluding to the deprivation of convict labour I contemplated this amongst the evil consequences thereof.

26. To these causes, then, you attribute the distressed state of the settler, and the necessity for his bringing his land into the market?—As far as I understand the circumstances of the colony, I should say so.

27. To what do you attribute the want of a market for surplus live stock?—Chiefly to the want of additional immigrants with capital; that which was in it having been drained by the exportation of the land fund.

28. To what do you attribute the cessation of the introduction of immigrants with capital?—I should say chiefly to the sudden changes which have taken place in the price of land; the uncertainty which has been produced in the minds of people in England; and the consequent reaction of the speculative sales at Port Phillip.

29. Do you not think that the present low price of stock offers a favourable opportunity for investing capital in live stock?—I should say it was, were I certain that it had reached its minimum price; even at present rates I think it must be favourable.

30. The committee are desirous of being informed if you can oblige them with a plan of the land adjacent to Corner Inlet?—I can; I have a map here.

31. Will you have the goodness to explain to what extent the survey in that direction has proceeded?—The town of Albert has been marked out; and Mr. Townshend, the surveyor, has just arrived on Manero Plains, having completed a survey of the road to that point; and where he has been joined by two other surveyors who are to be employed with him in a general survey of the country towards Cape Howe and the eastern coast.

32. Have the approaches by water been sounded, and has there been found access for vessels of large burthen?—They have; vessels of considerable tonnage may approach within three miles of the township, near the point of junction of the rivers Albert and Tarra.

33. From the reports of your surveyors, can you give the committee any information as to the extent of good land in that neighbourhood?—I have not received Mr. Townshend's last report.

34. Will you have the goodness to state, whether your impression as to the general character of the land there is favourable?—Not so favourable as it was as respects the land immediately in the neighbourhood of Corner Inlet and Alberton; but I believe there is a vast extent of well-watered and very valuable land between that and the district of Manero.

Friday, 29th July 1842.

Mr. WILLIAM JAQUES, Auctioneer, called in, and examined.

Mr. W. Jaques.

29th July 1842.

1. You are auctioneer for conducting the sales of Crown lands in Sydney, and have been so for many years?—I am, and have been so for eight years.

2. In your evidence before the committee in 1840, you will perhaps remember that you gave statements of what land fetched?—I did, taken from the sales' books.

3. Have you since seen reason to believe that such prices can no longer be obtained, or do you think land still retains that value?—Certainly, if there were funds at the disposal of persons to whom the purchase of lands must be an object of desire.

4. The question is put practically, with reference to lands which, on your former examination, you stated to have been sold at particular prices; whether, if the same lands were now put up to sale, you continue to think they would bring the same prices?—It would depend upon the spirit of competition which might exist at the time of sale; at present there is no competition.

5. Now, there is not that competition?—There is not, because there are not the same funds unappropriated as at the time of my last examination.

6. How long back do you trace that indisposition to purchase lands with avidity?—The first falling off of the sales arose from the contemplated division of the colony. Despatches arrived about the day before that fixed for the sale of certain lands at Moreton Bay, and the lots were withdrawn; since then there has been general embarrassment, and less speculation; parties were obliged to provide for their liabilities, and therefore refrained from expending money on real property, or from locking up their money in the purchase of what they might be unable to reconvert into money, should their exigencies at any time require it. I think also, that there was a general opinion that the minimum price might be reduced, and that other measures, more affecting other parts of the colony, might be adopted here; and therefore capitalists refrained from making purchases.

7. In stating your belief, that there was an expectation that the minimum price would be reduced, do you found your opinion upon conversations which you have had with

with parties interested?—Upon general conversation with others, and from my own observation.

8. Have you perceived an equal disinclination to purchase town allotments?—No further than that local purchasers have already made their purchases; and as speculation has ceased, those who bought merely for resale do not now bid at the sales as heretofore.

9. Do you think that the belief as to reduction of the minimum price of land still prevails?—I think not, except with those who will retain their opinion in spite of all proofs that such will not be the case; if it was imagined that the minimum price would be raised, it would, I think, induce buyers to come forward.

10. What was the highest price obtained at the sale of Moreton Bay lands the week before last?—About 1,100*l.* per acre; and if cultivation and town allotments were brought forward, the prices which have been given, great as they are, would be increased upon.

11. Do you consider the expectation well founded, that if more land in the Moreton Bay district were brought into the market at this time, it would find purchasers at a high price?—I hear so from those who have purchased, and those who are inclined to purchase, in that district.

12. Did you discover from the parties who made these statements, that they had formed any well-digested plan for making such purchases remunerate them for the outlay; or do they, in purchasing, proceed merely upon speculation of selling them again at a profit?—I conceive that a great number of the purchasers intend to subdivide their purchases with a view to resale at a profit; others have purchased with a view to the immediate erection of stores, and other buildings from which they expect to derive immediate profit. There was also a great desire expressed for cultivation allotments; many inquiries were made at the sale, when more land suited for cultivation would be offered for sale.

13. You stated in 1840 that there was a growing spirit for the purchase of Crown Lands; do you think that that spirit continued until the proposed division of the colony became known?—I do.

14. During what portion of the period of your holding the situation of auctioneer for the sale of Crown lands has the sale of them been most brisk?—Upon the alteration of the minimum price, there was a great desire to purchase lands applied for previously to the rise, and gazetted at 5*s.* This created a brisk sale; the time to which I refer was in the years 1839 and 1838.

15. Was there at that period a considerable importation of capital into the colony by the introduction of new banks, and the increase of the capital of the existing banks?—Immense, and sudden.

16. Did not that create a very extensive demand for Crown lands?—I should think that it must.

17. Did not, in fact, capital flow into the colony faster than it could be employed?—I am not competent to give a decided opinion, but such is my impression. I should say that banks, from surplus capital, became too lax in their system of accommodation.

18. Was not the effect of the introduction of that capital so suddenly, that of creating an artificial value upon all property, including Crown lands?—It evidently must.

19. Have you reason to believe that the purchases of Crown lands made at that time have been profitable to the buyers?—I think so, because as far as I am able to judge, very few of them have been resold. I am not aware of any large portions having been sold, except at what is called a sacrifice.

20. At the late sales has there been any competition at 12*s.* per acre?—There has.

21. How much Government land has been sold during the last twelve months at 12*s.* per acre?—I cannot from memory say, but there was very little; I think that there was one sale of 138 lots at which there was not a single bidding, and these were chiefly lands which had been offered on former occasions at 5*s.* per acre.

22. Generally speaking, have the lands put up at 12*s.* per acre been sold?—I should say not much more than one-tenth.

23. Has the attendance at the Government sales been the same as it was previous to the raising of the upset price?—By no means; but I do not think that this falling off was in consequence of the raised price.

24. When the upset price was raised there was a great demand for town allotments?—Yes.

25. To what do you attribute that?—To general speculation; the desire of investing small capitals in a way likely to be hereafter beneficial, and to the existence of a large amount of spare capital.

26. When the colony recovers from its present depression, do you consider that grazing land will sell at 12*s.* per acre?—Such is my opinion, derived from a long experience as a surveyor.

27. Upon what data do you found your calculation; do you conceive that at that price the land will yield a profitable return to the purchaser?—I do, from the general improvements in land which will take place throughout the colony.

28. Do you think that in a new country capitalists can, generally speaking, afford to look to remote return from lands and to forego an immediate income?—I conceive that the immediate profit ought not so much to influence purchasers as the prospect of future improvement. I have advised private friends to act on that principle, and I think that there was no reason why they should not act upon it. Those persons who have not other means upon which to live, independently of any immediate return from the lands which they may purchase, should not in this country invest their capital in real property and dead speculations.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mr. W. Jaques.

29th July 1842.

29. In point of time which occurred first, the rise in the minimum price, or the proposition to divide the colony?—The rise in the price preceded.

30. Then as you have stated that the demand for Crown lands continued till the proposal to divide the colony was made known, what ground can there be for the opinion that the rise in the price caused the demand to cease?—I do not think that it did; the decrease of demand was rather occasioned by a species of combination, with a view to enforce a reduction of the price.

31. Have you not recently had allotments in Sydney proposed for sale, for which there were no bidders?—Yes; I do not think the allotments were eligible, from want of depth, and also from their not being in very desirable situations.

32. Do you remember the upset price for those allotments?—I believe it was 15*l.* per foot.

33. Was there not some land sold in George-street?—There was.

34. Did it not realise a good price?—I believe it did.

35. Do you consider that the value of property in Sydney has declined during the period since the rise in the minimum price?—I do not draw any such conclusion; for desirable sites a higher price than ever would be given.

36. Then, in point of fact, the same causes which operate to prevent the sale of grazing land have not prevented the sale of town allotments in Sydney?—Not of land in the town of Sydney. The trade is now reviving, and there is an immense quantity of capital in the hands of certain people, who will stop at nothing to obtain land in suitable situations for business.

Friday, 29th July 1842.

WILLIAM MILLER Esq., Deputy Commissary-General, called in, and examined.

W. Miller, Esq.

29th July 1842.

1. THE Committee have requested you to attend for the purpose of ascertaining what has been the rate of payments in the colony on account of the British Government, from the period at which the practice of selling Crown lands commenced (from 1831) to the close of last year?—In consequence of the letter I received this day from the clerk of Councils, I have prepared a return embodying the information required, which I now beg to submit to the committee. [*Return put in.*]

EXPENDITURE from the Military Chest at Sydney, New South Wales.

Year.	Military.	Convict.	Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.
1832	68,890	88,010	16,091	167,991
1833	61,814	90,018	4,066	155,898
1834	88,290	115,169	18,649	217,108
1835	100,491	113,602	5,294	219,387
1836	105,364	150,948	92,003	328,315
1837	99,029	124,023	26,903	249,257
1838	93,667	127,651	104,495	325,813
1839	100,410	162,307	70,169	332,886
1840	96,507	142,898	41,936	281,341
1841	78,082	98,658	37,108	213,828

2. Since the discontinuance of transportation, has the expenditure within the colony (exclusive of Norfolk Island) been diminishing for convict services?—The expenditure for Norfolk Island differs in no respect from convict expenditure for any other station, and I cannot readily separate it; but I think the maximum expenditure from the military chest has been about 330,000*l.*; it is now reduced to about 250,000*l.* or less, per annum, chiefly from the decrease of the convict expenditure.

3. Do you anticipate a further decrease?—For the present year it will probably be under 200,000*l.*

4. For all services, military, convict and miscellaneous?—Yes; but the miscellaneous service is very uncertain, and not always connected with this colony; it includes the expenses of ships of war, both British and Foreign, when they happen to touch here; considerable sums expended for the armament now on the coast of China have been classed under this head; and I have formerly and am at present sending money to Van Diemen's Land, in aid of the military chest there; which, in a statement such as that now required, can appear only as miscellaneous.

5. What was the amount of the current expenditure of the convict establishments within the colony during the year 1841?—Last year it was about 100,000*l.*, independent of stores, &c., which were furnished by the Ordnance department to the various convict establishments.

6. Is, then, the expenditure on account of convict establishments continually diminishing, and likely after a few years to be still further reduced?—It is; the decrease in the number

of convicts has already been found to admit of the establishments hitherto maintained for them, at some places, being entirely discontinued, and at others, greatly reduced; and I consider that the period is fast approaching when the whole will be dispensed with.

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W. Miller, Esq.

29th July 1842.

Enclosure, No. 2., in Sir George Gipps' Despatch, 20th September 1842.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COUNCIL.

Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Council.

Friday, 9th September 1842.

Proceedings of the Council.

9th Sept. 1842.

Present:—His Excellency the Governor, and Twelve Members. Absent:—His Honor the Chief Justice, and Sir John Jamison.

Council met pursuant to adjournment—His Excellency the Governor in the Chair. Report of the Committee upon Immigration further considered, and the following Resolutions adopted:—

1. *Resolved*, That this Council, having had under consideration the Report from the Committee, appointed during the present Session to inquire into and report on the subject of Immigration, concurs generally in the opinions therein expressed.

2. *Resolved*, That this Council especially concurs in the statement of the Committee, that notwithstanding the unprecedented influx of immigrants during the past year, in which the number added to the population have been no less than 23,426 at an expense to the colony of 328,563*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* there are no symptoms of a superabundance of labour in any part of the territory, there being few, if any, instances of industrious and skilful artisans or labourers wanting employment;—and although wages have been so far reduced, as in some degree to meet the circumstances of the employer, they have not fallen below that level which enables the labourer to provide an honest and comfortable subsistence for himself and family.

3. *Resolved*, That the large and increasing sums at the credit of the working classes, in the Savings Bank of New South Wales, afford a gratifying proof of their continued prosperous condition, notwithstanding the recent extensive increase of their numbers;—the deposits in that Institution having increased from 143,000*l.*, on the 30th June 1840, to 178,000*l.*, at the same date of the present year; whilst the accounts opened during the past year average no less than 170*l.* per month, being a considerable increase on the average of all former years.

4. *Resolved*, That this Council also concurs with the Committee, that although the copious supply of labour recently received has, amongst other beneficial effects upon the welfare of the colony, had that of enabling the settlers to carry on the operations of their industry for a certain period, yet that unless measures be taken in the early part of the ensuing year for the resumption of emigration the want of labour will be as injuriously felt as ever;—wages will rise to their former exorbitant rate, and the consequent exhaustion of property, and embarrassment among the settlers, will be again experienced even with aggravated severity.

5. *Resolved*, That this Council, adverting to the Resolutions passed on this subject in former years, has, in common with the Committee, had reason to find the opinions previously entertained as to the expediency of negotiating a loan on the security of the unsold Crown lands of the colony, for the purposes of immigration, more than fully confirmed.

6. *Resolved*, That although the Land Fund has declined for the present, from a concurrence of circumstances which it is not necessary here to particularise, yet that, in the opinion of this Council, the vast tracts of vacant Crown lands must form a fully adequate basis of security for any loan of reasonable amount, which could be contracted for the promotion of immigration in this season of emergency;—nor can reasonable doubt be entertained, that to whatever extent it may, upon trial, be found that the colony is capable of receiving, and advantageously employing, an additional population, to the same extent a loan may be securely applied to the purpose of introducing that population.

7. *Resolved*, That this Council also concurs with the Committee, that the immediate abstraction of capital in payment for the importation of emigrants, a portion only of whom add to the productive labour of the colony, the families being for the most part consumers and not producers for a considerable period after their arrival, must so materially contract that circulation of money which is required to carry on successfully the business of an active community, that it would be impolitic to continue a system fraught with such serious inconveniences. During the last five years no less than 46,000 souls have been introduced at a cost to the colony of 850,000*l.*, exclusively raised within itself, and remitted to the United Kingdom; so vast an effort for so infant a community could not fail to produce considerable exhaustion, nor be made without leading to a state of temporary depression.

8. *Resolved*, That this Council agrees further with the Committee, that these inconveniences would be in a great measure abated, if the introduction of labour could for a time be paid for by borrowed funds, the repayment of which there can be no doubt would be provided for by the capital which would in a short time be created by means of the labour introduced, and the circulation of the capital retained.

9. *Resolved*, That if the raising of a loan in England for the purposes of emigration should wear the appearance of drawing upon the resources of the mother country, its welfare is involved in a degree not inferior perhaps to that of the colony itself in the first expenditure,

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expenditure, as well as in the final result of the application of the funds so raised. The entire amount of every such loan would be ultimately repaid from the resources of the colony, and in the meantime, no part would be withdrawn from the United Kingdom, but the whole would be expended in the advancement of the three chief and leading interests of the mother country, as well as for the benefit of the labouring classes of the British community, now suffering from a superabundant population. The shipping interest must be promoted by the extent of tonnage employed in the emigration service. The agricultural interest would derive benefit through the demand for victualling so many persons during a voyage of such duration; while few events would be so favourable to the manufacturing interests of Great Britain as the rapid growth in this colony of a population dependent for the supply of their wants upon the products of its industry, and engaged in raising a staple article of export, which, while it supplied the raw material for an important article of manufacture, would enable them to be extensive consumers of British goods.

10. *Resolved*, That on the grounds set forth, this Council fully relies on the assistance of Her Majesty's Government in raising a loan on the most advantageous terms to the colony; nor can such assistance be drawn into a precedent which might be inconvenient as regards the claims of other dependencies of the Crown, if, in every such case, the whole amount is to be expended in the mother country, for the promotion of emigration, with the same advantages to the several classes of the British community, and upon the same undoubted security, as are proposed in the instance of this colony.

11. *Resolved*, That this Council repeats its recommendation of former years, that it is highly desirable that all ships in which emigrants may be brought to this colony should be conducted on temperance principles; and especially that the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors on board, a practice which there is reason to apprehend has prevailed in the ships of the last season, and has been attended with injurious consequences to the maintenance of order, and to the moral habits of the emigrants, should in future be strictly prohibited.

12. *Resolved*, That this Council would especially recommend as a measure of vital importance to the preservation of health, order, and morals, in all emigration ships, whether under the Bounty System, or engaged by the Government, that the surgeons should be men not only of professional skill and experience, but accustomed to the sea, and of undoubted character—if possible, officers of the Royal Navy—and that they should be appointed under the authority of the Government, and responsible to the Government alone for the due performance of the highly important duties intrusted to them.

13. *Resolved*, That his Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to communicate a copy of these Resolutions to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Council adjourned at Four o'clock *sine die*.

FRANCIS L. S. MERREWETHER,
Clerk of Councils.

Enclosure, No. 3., in Sir GEORGE GIPPS' Despatch, 20th September 1842.

SPEECH of his Excellency Sir GEORGE GIPPS, in Council, on Friday, 9th September 1842, on the Resolutions proposed by the Colonial Secretary, in approval of the Report of the Committee on Immigration.

Gentlemen,

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THE question before the Council still is, that the first Resolution, proposed by the Colonial Secretary, be adopted. I feel it would be scarcely proper for me at any time, or under any circumstances, to allow matters of such deep importance as those which are involved in the Immigration Report of the present year to be disposed of without giving to the Council some expression of my sentiments upon them; but more especially do I feel it necessary, on the present occasion, to offer some explanations to you, since it is well known I do not share in some of the opinions which have been broadly put forth in the course of the present debate. It behoves me, I am well aware, under such circumstances, to speak both with moderation and caution; as, however, this is the third day to which the discussion has extended, and it would be inconvenient to many members were we to enter on a fourth, I will proceed at once to the important points of the subject.

I concur generally with the Committee in the views which they have this year taken of the subject of Immigration; and I fully concur in the opinions so generally expressed by the members now present, of the obligations which we are under to the Right Reverend Prelate, the Chairman of the Committee, for the great attention which he has given to the subject, and the ability with which he has treated it; and though there are some parts of the Report which I cannot altogether adopt, I do not think it unfortunate that I differ from the Committee on the points which I allude to, since the principal reason why I differ from them is, that I take a less gloomy view of the state of the colony than they do.

In respect of the Bounty System, my views coincide very nearly with those of the Committee, and still more closely with those which were developed by the Lord Bishop himself on the first day of this discussion, but I do not, on that account, the less consider the Bounty System, as carried on during the last five or six years, to be at an end: some modification of it may, perhaps, be advantageously adopted, but, for various considerations, some affecting the Government, others affecting the bounty agents themselves, I think the system must undergo considerable alterations, or be abandoned altogether. The supply of immigrants under it is far too precarious to be depended upon, sometimes not furnishing us with a sufficiency, at other times threatening to pour immigrants in upon us in excess; and

and this precariousness must exist so long as the promises of bounty to persons bringing immigrants to the colony continue to be made in the colony instead of in England.

In consequence of these promises being made in the colony, a considerable period of time, usually two years, is allowed for them to remain in force; and this is too long for the government to remain in doubt whether the immigrants will arrive or not. The promises or agreements, moreover, or bounty orders, as they have been very improperly called, have no mutuality in them, being binding only on the government, and not on the parties with which the government treats. The government binds itself to pay the promised bounties, provided the immigrants arrive in the colony within two years; but there is no corresponding engagement on the part of the bounty agent to bring them. The disadvantages of the system are indeed so evident, that Lord John Russell, in a despatch which has, I believe, been printed, directed that all agreements for the future importation of immigrants on bounty should be drawn by the law officers of the Crown, with a view, I conclude, of making them equally binding on both parties; these instructions I have not had occasion to carry into effect, because, since I received them, I have granted no permissions to import immigrants, but I fear that, even had I had occasion to do so, any attempt to introduce mutuality into our agreements would have been unsuccessful; indeed, long before the receipt of Lord John Russell's despatch, I had tried to introduce the principle of mutuality, and failed, as no one could then, nor ever will, I think, be found in this colony willing to incur so great a risk as he would do in binding himself to import any certain number of immigrants within two years, or, indeed, within any specified time. The cost of introducing a company of immigrants must depend upon many circumstances, such as the disposition to emigrate in the working classes at home, the price of freight and provisions, as well as other expenses attendant on the fitting out of an emigrant ship, all of which can be known readily in England, but cannot be known in the colony. The disposition to emigrate from the United Kingdom is very fluctuating. The last ships which left England, under the government system, in 1839, came out half empty; and of the bounty orders that were issued prior to 1840, scarcely one-third were acted on; whilst those issued in 1840 and 1841 would, in all probability, have been acted upon to their fullest amount, but for the interposition of the Home Government in the autumn of the latter year.

The uncertainty of the supply, however, and the inconveniences to the government which grow out of it, are not the only reasons which I have for thinking that the bounty system cannot be continued in the way in which it has hitherto been conducted: there are other considerations, affecting the bounty agents themselves, which lead me to the same conclusion. I doubt very much whether persons will so readily embark, as they hitherto have done, in the business of emigration, or what may be called the immigrant trade, when they learn the extent to which bounties have been disallowed in this colony, and are made aware that some 22,000*l.* of their respective profits had been cut off. I, long ago, recorded my apprehension that the new speculators, who were attracted to the trade by the rise in the bounties in 1840, would not carry it on so satisfactorily as it had been conducted whilst in the hands almost of a single individual, and that individual, one, who, I will say to his honour, appears to have been actuated not solely by a love of gain, but also, in no small degree, by the honourable ambition of being looked upon as a public benefactor by the people of this colony. But I never did contemplate, nor could any man in his senses, I think, have contemplated, the entire heedlessness with which these new speculators rushed into the trade, disregarding all our regulations, and, above all, disregarding the warning given at the end of them, that all the conditions contained in them would be rigorously enforced. It is, I know, said, that the bounty agents have, in many instances, been themselves deceived; and I have received a letter pointing out this, from a gentleman (Mr. Nicholas James) who has been long engaged in the bounty trade, both on his own account, and as agent for Mr. Marshall. Certificates may, I will readily allow, have been forged, and various sorts of imposition resorted to, in order to deceive the bounty agents in respect to the ages or callings of different individuals seeking passages to New South Wales; but there was one regulation, at least, in respect to which they could not have been deceived, and whatever loss may have accrued to them from inattention to this regulation must be attributed to their own carelessness or avarice. The regulation which I allude to is that which regards unmarried women. It would, indeed, be unreasonable to make the bounty agents responsible for the virtue of every unmarried woman who comes to the colony; but the regulation, which requires that every unmarried woman shall come out under the protection of a married one, is one which might easily have been complied with, and yet it has been in a vast number of instances disregarded. The unmarried women, indeed, seem most frequently to have been put on board without any regard to the protection of married women, though they indeed were sometimes *told off*, as it was called, to families, towards the end of the voyage, or as the ship was entering the harbour; and in some instances, I regret to say, that the surgeon in charge of the immigrants has been known to assist in this operation of "telling off." Wherever cases of this nature have occurred, I cannot consider the bounty agents entitled to any pity for the losses they may have sustained.

For the reasons which I have thus stated, I think all future engagements for bringing out emigrants should be made at home, and not in this colony, except it be in the case, which I shall presently come to, of persons resident in the colony who may desire to import labourers to be employed bonâ fide by themselves.

At home the contracts may be made absolute, and the parties entering into them be compelled under penalties to fulfil them. The time, too, within which they are to be

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fulfilled may be limited to two, three, or at most six months, and the local government being advised of these contracts as soon as they are entered into, will be relieved from all doubt or uncertainty as to the number of immigrants to be expected. With respect to the selection of persons to be brought out under this proposed modification of the system, I should be disposed to leave it still to the bounty agents, or contractors, which would be a more proper name for them; and this for two reasons: first, because I am convinced that selection by government agents will never give satisfaction in the colony; however zealous or unexceptionable their conduct, whatever care or solicitude they may exercise, they will always be accused or suspected of acting under some improper influence, such as that of the poor law commissioners, guardians of parish unions, or of rich proprietors, anxious to get rid of their paupers; and, secondly, because I am anxious to preserve the great check and safeguard of the bounty system, that which, in fact, is the characteristic of the system, namely, the power of withholding the bounty if the parties for whom it is claimed be not eligible under our regulations. It is this check, and this alone, which can, I think, ensure to the colony a good class of immigrants; and it cannot be preserved if the emigrants be selected in England by the agents of the government. Some people are, doubtless, unreasonable in their expectations, and seem to think that those who may be called the very cream of the labouring population of the United Kingdom are ready to emigrate, and wait only for an invitation to come to this colony. Such people forget altogether that, though even the frugal and the industrious may sometimes at home feel the pressure of the times, the disposition to emigrate is generally most strong amongst persons of a different description. Whether emigration from England be conducted by bounty agents or by the immediate agents of government, all we can in reason expect is to obtain fair samples of the class of persons amongst whom the desire to emigrate is strongest: if the disposition to emigrate be stronger amongst artizans or labourers of one class than of another, then we must expect to have more of that class;* and in the same way if the desire to emigrate be stronger in one part of the United Kingdom than another, as, for instance, stronger in Ireland than in Scotland or in England, then shall we assuredly get more Irish than either Scotch or English; and I cannot expect that the government will ever interfere to show favour or disfavour to persons of any class or district. The disposition to emigrate is the only thing, or, at any rate, the chief thing, that the government will look to. If we want immigrants possessed of any peculiar qualifications—Protestants rather than Catholics, or Scotchmen rather than Englishmen—we must send our own agents to select them; and this brings me to what I just now alluded to as the excepted case, or the case in which I would propose still to retain the bounty system in its actual shape.

When persons resident in the colony require labourers for their own purposes, I would still propose to give them permission to import them, and to receive bounties on them as heretofore. They should, however, first satisfy the local government that they do want them bonâ fide for their own use, and that they will employ them on their arrival. Consequently, the government would be at no expense whatever on account of such immigrants beyond the bounty payable on them; and such bounty might, I think, very well be reduced to what it was prior to 1840, if not even to a lower amount. The parties wanting such immigrants would, of course, select them in England, Scotland, or Ireland, by their own agents; and I feel satisfied that if immigrants of any particular qualifications as to country or creed be required, it is only in this manner that a supply of them can be ensured. I need scarcely observe that this, moreover, would only be a return to what the bounty system was intended to be by Sir Richard Bourke, who was the inventor of it, though the principle of it was early departed from; and even before Sir R. Bourke left the government, permission to import immigrants on bounty had been given to persons who did not pretend that they had employment for them.

But, gentlemen, the manner in which emigrants may be best procured, and brought to this colony, forms only one portion, and, indeed, but a very small portion, of the questions which are opened out to us by this year's report of the committee on immigration. So long as we had money to pay for immigrants, it was the only question; but we now want money as well as immigrants, and the various ways by which a government may procure money involve many considerations of political economy, which, of all the speculations that are called sciences, is the one in which persons are most apt to mistake effects for causes. We have to do also with that branch of political economy, namely colonization, which is the least understood of any, and in which men of the present day—not ordinary men, but men of a high rank of intellect—have been led into gross errors,† and by the failure of their schemes have involved many of their followers in disaster and ruin. It behoves us, therefore, to be cautious how we proceed, and not to come to hasty conclusions; to be distrustful of our own judgments, lest, like others, we find out hereafter that we also have been in error.

Our position now is, that we want immigrants, but have no money to pay for them. Why do we want immigrants? Because the capital of the colony is rapidly increasing, and every interest in it extending itself. Such being the case, why have we no money? Simply because the funds dedicated to the support of immigration are derived from the sale of land, and at present we can sell no land. So far we are all agreed. But why, again,

* Of classes, that is to say, equally eligible under the regulations of this Government.

† And, above all, into the error of supposing that colonies can be advantageously formed without the aid of Government.

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do we sell no land? Because, it is answered, the minimum price of it has been raised. To a certain extent, also, I will admit this; at least I will not attempt to deny that the rise in the minimum price is likely in the present circumstances of the colony to diminish for a time the proceeds of the sales of land. But when I find by the report of your committee, or by the evidence appended to it, that the present depressed state of the colony is attributed by witnesses from all parts of it to the same rise in the minimum price of land, and that, as a remedy for the evils we are suffering, the same witnesses advise a return to the old minimum price, I cannot go along with them, notwithstanding that I know they speak the opinions of the great majority of the people out of doors, and that those opinions are, with one solitary exception (that of the Bishop of Australia) entertained also by the members of the council which I am now addressing. The distress of the flock-masters is attributed to the fact of there being at present no market for their surplus stock, or rather for the annual increase of their stock; and the want of a market, or of a demand for stock, is attributed to the unwillingness of persons to engage in sheep-farming, on account of the rise in the minimum price of land. That there is an unwillingness at present to embark in sheep-farming I readily admit, but that such unwillingness can justly be charged on, or ought to have been produced by, the rise in the minimum price of land is the point on which we are to join issue. I do not think that the distresses under which the colonists now labour are to be attributed at all, or, if at all, in any more than a very small degree, to the increase in the minimum price of land.

I must ask the indulgence of the council whilst I speak upon this subject. I feel the difficulty in which I am placed in thus holding and expressing opinions with so great a majority against me. I know well that it behoves me to be cautious, especially as I may be exposed to the suspicion of seeking to support my arguments by some portion of the authority which belongs to my station. I have often, indeed, felt the inconvenience of the position which I occupy in this council, and which causes any thing spoken by me to be more eagerly caught at, and perhaps I may say occasionally cavilled at, than if the same proceeded from any other place at the table. This I have particularly felt when called upon in the course of debate to give unpremeditated opinions on points of importance to the interests of the colony. At present, however, whether right or wrong, I speak advisedly, and after mature consideration.

That the colony now is labouring under serious difficulties must be admitted; but it does not follow that these difficulties are occasioned by the increased minimum price of land. The complaint of the graziers is that there is no sale for their surplus stock, or, in other words, for the increase of their flocks and herds. If this were the case in respect to horned cattle only, it might be supposed that it was an actual superabundance of cattle which rendered them valueless, as we know that cattle are almost valueless in some parts of South America, where they are killed only for their hides and their tallow. Had the depreciation been confined to horned cattle, I should have been inclined to think that such was the true state of the case; but the depreciation is greater even in sheep than in cattle; and, as it is admitted that the wool of sheep alone will very nearly, if not entirely, pay the whole expense of sheep-farming, and there is not a day in the year in which ready money cannot be obtained in Sydney for any quantity of wool that may be brought to market, it can scarcely be said that there are too many sheep in the colony, or that the depreciation of sheep is owing to their superabundance.

But still people will not buy sheep even at the price to which they are now reduced; and what is the reason that they will not? It cannot be because land is dear, because land is depreciated too, and in fact far cheaper than it was when sheep were dear. It is true that the Government will not sell any land under 12*s.* per acre, and that it even contemplates the raising of its price to 20*s.*; but there are plenty of people who will sell land for almost any thing they can get for it; in fact, they are obliged to sell land, or the sheriff will sell it for them. Land is, in fact, cheaper now than it has been for the last five, if not for the last ten, years, and, whatever may be the ultimate effect of raising the minimum price of land, the present depression in the price of stock cannot be attributed to a cause which has not yet taken effect. I have not the smallest doubt that if any person were to advertise to-morrow for 10,000 acres of land, he would receive offers of three or four times that amount immediately, and at prices considerably under 12*s.* per acre. Why, there is not, perhaps, a member of this council who would not be glad to sell land at less than 12*s.* an acre, except, indeed, the Bishop and myself, who cannot sell land, because we neither of us have any. The indisposition, therefore, to invest money in sheep or land cannot be caused by the increase in the minimum price. On the contrary, instead of lessening the inclination to purchase, its effect ought rather to be to induce people to purchase. If they regarded the minimum price at all, they would say, "Let us buy now while we can buy cheap; land will shortly be 20*s.* an acre, and then we shall not be able to buy." But if it be not the dearness of land which prevents people from purchasing, neither can it be the scarcity of money, for money is by no means scarce in the colony; on the contrary, it must be plain to every body that there is plenty of money wherewith to build houses, or to enter into any speculation which promises profit, except sheep or cattle farming. The bank returns, moreover, prove beyond dispute, that the quantity of money in the colony is not diminished. Gold and silver have increased within the last two years, and the deposits of individuals have also increased—those deposits which may at the pleasure of individuals be any day withdrawn for the purposes of investment. The gross deposits in the banks are indeed less than they were two years ago, but the diminution is occasioned solely by the decrease in the government deposits, not in the deposits of individuals; these latter have increased. The present indisposition to buy either land

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or stock cannot therefore be attributed either to the dearness of land or to the scarcity of money.* To what, then, is it to be attributed? I answer, principally, if not solely, to the general panic which has succeeded a general mania. There is no occasion to go far in search of reasons for the existing derangement of the colony. Wherever a mania for excessive speculation rages, there surely will follow a season of depression; the one, in fact, succeeds the other as naturally as the hot fit of an ague succeeds the cold one. It is this general panic which causes people to hold back from purchasing either land or stock; they hold back, for the most part, in the expectation that prices will fall still lower than they now are, some few, perhaps, in the apprehension that the whole colony is really going to ruin.

I need not go at length into all the causes which produced the late mania, or (which is the same thing) brought capital to this colony in excessive quantities between the years 1835 and 1840. Various circumstances conspired during that period to turn the attention of English capitalists to the Australian colonies. I will allude only to the attractive theories which were then put forward by the disciples of the Wakefield school, and to the vauntings of the excessive riches of New South Wales, which are to be found in the evidence taken before the Transportation Committee of the House of Commons. The real El Dorado was at last said to be found in Australia; the only question asked was, why people would not come and share in the vast profits we were making. Capital then began to flow into the colony a great deal faster than it could be advantageously invested. For a time, however, all looked well, and the demand for stock which the opening of Port Phillip and South Australia created, caused the price of sheep, oxen, and especially of horses, to rise very rapidly. That during these years far too much capital came into the colony will, I think, be admitted, if we only consider the shape in which it must have come; and here I must be permitted to say that there appears to me to be a great want of clearness of apprehension as to what capital consists of. Many persons talk of bills of exchange, or letters of credit, as if they were capital, which they are not, but only the representatives of capital. To transfer capital from one country to another, there must be a transfer of something corporal, something which in the widest acceptation of the word constitutes "merchandise." A man who, when about to emigrate to New South Wales, purchases in London a Bill on Sydney, does not himself transfer his capital; he only makes a bargain with another party, who engages to do it for him; and that other party must send merchandise to meet the bill he draws, or it will be only a matter of account between himself and his correspondent, without any real transfer of capital having been effected.

The desire to emigrate to Australia during the years I have mentioned, causing a great demand for bills on Sydney, such bills were drawn, and in order to meet them, vast quantities of goods were sent to Sydney, which were never ordered; in fact the consignments of goods were no longer regulated by the state of the market in the colony, or by the demands of the merchants resident in Sydney, but by the demand which existed in London for bills on Sydney. Hence, enormous quantities of goods were sent to our market, quantities altogether disproportioned to the demand; the bills, however, drawn on account of these goods, were honoured, and the parties to whom they had been given were here with money in their hands. A great deal of this money was invested in mortgages or in loans—in loans, perhaps, to parties who never ought to have been trusted; much of it, also, was invested in the purchase of government lands, and especially of town allotments (or building land) not immediately productive, but expected rapidly to rise in value. The large sums realized by the sales of land were deposited, by the government, in the banks; the banks, consequently, increased their discounts; credit became greatly extended, and there was what is called an abundance of money. The colony appeared to be in a state of extraordinary prosperity; the number of ships in our harbour was pointed to with exultation; and it became a matter of boast, that we imported more goods from England than did the whole empire of Russia. And so matters went on—consignments increasing, land sales increasing, government money in the banks increasing, and discounts increasing, until the hollowness of the whole system was at length exposed. Merchants then found out that they had goods which they could no longer sell at any price, or at any credit; that their stores were full of articles for which there was no demand, from steam-engines down to pocket-handkerchiefs; and, what was still worse, of articles which had better been sunk to the bottom of the sea than brought into the colony, —such as carriages, champagne and bottled porter. The quantity of these latter articles consumed during the period of this fictitious prosperity was enormous. Why, the whole country, for miles, almost for hundreds of miles, round Melbourne, is strewed, to this day, with champagne bottles.

All these articles of luxury or folly, whether consumed or not consumed, constituted a dead loss to some party or other (it is to be hoped that the greater part of the loss fell upon the parties who sent them here); other articles, useful in themselves but perishable in their nature, rotted in the merchants' stores; and even articles, not perishable in their nature, were sold so far below their value, or to persons who have since become insolvent, that a large proportion of the capital introduced into the colony during the last five or six years, whatever shape it came in, may be considered as already absolutely lost, and more, I fear, is going the same way; nevertheless the cry is, that we want more capital from England, and that part of our distress is owing to our having sent capital out of the

* *See* Note (*A.*), p. 156.

country

country to pay for emigrants! Capital, I will allow, we do want, but only under certain conditions; that is to say, on condition that the capitalist, or the person to whom it belongs, come with it—that he come and form one of us, and identify himself with our interests; and I do not doubt that any one possessed of common prudence, who will do this, will find that Australia is not yet a ruined country. But I desire to see no capital come here without its owner, to be invested only in loans or mortgages, at usurious interest; let us, rather than accept such fatal offerings, resolve, one and all, to exercise the most untiring industry, and the most pinching economy; and let those who cannot afford to hire shepherds go themselves and tend their sheep, as did the men who laid the first foundations of the wealth of Australia. This is the true way to dispel the existing panic, and to cause those to make investments in the country, who now hold back.

If there be any further reasons wanting to show that the existing distress is not to be attributed to the rise in the minimum price of land, I would point to other parts of Australia, where the distress is as great, or even greater, than in New South Wales, though no one can pretend that it is owing to such a cause. In South Australia, matters are far worse than they are here, though there has been no alteration in the price of land, and there is neither maximum nor minimum; land being sold by the Government at a fixed price, which remains the same as it was five years ago. In Van Diemen's Land, the depression is as great as it is here, though the quantity of land sold by the Government at any time is so small, that a rise in the price of it can have little or no effect on the prosperity of the colony.

At Port Phillip, again, the rise in the minimum price to 12*s.* could have no effect, since scarcely any Government land was sold under 12*s.*, even when the minimum price was 5*s.*

And now allow me to ask, what is the real meaning of a minimum price, or the object of establishing one? It is merely a declaration on the part of Government that it will not bring any land into the market under a certain price; or, in other words, that it will not, for the present at least, sell any land of an inferior quality. The Government does not pretend to prevent other persons, who have land, from selling it at any price they may choose to put upon it; the only thing the Government says, is, that so long as they sell their lands for less than a certain sum, the Government will not compete with them in the market. Neither does the Government attempt to force its own land into the market at or above its minimum price, though some persons argue very much as if it had attempted to do so; there is one way, indeed, in which the Government might attempt to do it, which would be, at the same time that it raised the minimum price of land, to declare that no person whatsoever should occupy or make use of any unalienated lands of the Crown; or, in other words, for the Government at once to put an end to what is called "squatting." The Government might have said, your flocks and your herds shall not set their feet on an acre of Crown land, unless you choose to purchase it for 20*s.*; but the Government has said no such thing; and I have recorded my opinion in a despatch, which has been published in the colony, and alluded to in the course of this debate, that any such attempt on the part of the Government would end in failure—that "it would be as easy to confine the Arabs of the desert within a circle traced upon their sands, as to confine the graziers or wool growers of New South Wales within any bounds that can be assigned to them—that all the power of the Government would not suffice to bring back, within the limits of the lands which have been alienated, the flocks and herds which now stray over the boundless plains of New South Wales."* The Government will not, it is true, henceforth sell any land at less than 20*s.* per acre; but it will continue to allow persons, as heretofore, to depasture their flocks on the ungranted lands of the Crown, on easy terms. The refusal to sell land at a low price may occasion some temporary falling off in our land fund, but that it will permanently destroy that fund I do not believe. I am entirely opposed to the selling of large breadths of land at a low price, for the purpose of raising a temporary revenue. I am an advocate for selling at a comparatively high price, or not selling at all. I do not think land should be sold, except to persons who have some intention of improving it; and for any land that is worth improving, 20*s.* an acre is not too much. But it will be asked, if land in large quantities be not sold, how are we to get money with which to pay for immigrants? This question I will answer by another: who are they who want immigrants the worst? The reply must be—the squatters; and next to them the parties who received in times past large grants of land gratuitously. If the land fund fail, therefore, these are the parties to whom we must look for funds wherewith to bring immigrants to the colony.

The South Australian theory is, that the money obtained by the sale of land should be spent in the importation of labourers, to be employed upon the land which is sold; but this part of it is as inapplicable to New South Wales as is the part which is founded on what may be called the Anti-dispersion principle, the fallacy of which in Australia has been so often exposed. The South Australian theory may be applicable to a country such as has been conjured up in vision, where land is valuable only in proportion to the labour that is bestowed upon it, and where no part of the land has been given away gratuitously; but in New South Wales land is valuable for grazing purposes, without the outlay on it of any labour†, whilst labour is required for extensive tracts of other lands which have been given

* Despatch to the Secretary of State, dated 19th December 1840.

† Shepherds indeed are required, but it can scarcely be said that they lay out labour on the land.

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away for nothing. Any attempt, therefore, to measure the quantity of labour wanted, by the quantity of land sold, must be futile. Labour is wanted in New South Wales, and I believe every where else, not in proportion to the land that is sold, but in proportion to the increase of capital in the colony. Sheep and oxen increase much faster than the human species; consequently in proportion as their increase is greater than the increase of our population, we should want immigrants, even though the Government were never again to sell an acre of land.

The squatters may not be, and indeed I do not think they are, at the present moment, in a condition to contribute largely to the funds wanted for the importation of immigrants, but their condition will, it is to be hoped, improve; and as soon as the present depression or despondency shall have passed away, some new regulations respecting the occupation of Crown lands will be required. The squatters are now the most numerous class of our colonists; the squatting interest is becoming the prevailing interest in the country; squatting is superseding settling; and in fact, almost every body who has any property at all is a squatter. And what, I would ask, do the squatters now pay? Comparisons have been made between the price of sheep and the minimum price of land, and the Government is accused of a design to make persons pay 20s. an acre for land, of which three acres are required to feed a sheep. Was there ever in the whole world, it is asked, so foolish a Government as this of ours, which seeks to make us pay 60s. (the interest of which at 10 per cent. is 6s. per annum) for as much land as will feed a sheep, which, when it has arrived at maturity, is worth only 5s.? I allow it would be a foolish Government, indeed, that were to attempt to do this; but what, let me again ask, does the Government really make a squatter pay for as much land as will feed a sheep? He pays for his license 10*l.* per annum, which license allows him to depasture on Crown lands any number of sheep or cattle which he may happen to possess, even though they may amount to 10,000 or 20,000. If we take, therefore, the very low average of 2,400 sheep to a station, he will pay 1*d.* per annum for the feed of each sheep, in lieu of 6s., which it is assumed the Government seeks to make him pay; and if we add to this, the assessment which he pays towards the maintenance of a police beyond the boundaries of location, the amount will be only 2*d.* per annum, which is only about the seventh part of the price of one pound of wool, or about the seventeenth part of the fleece of the sheep. Now if, under such circumstances, people really mean to say, that they cannot compete with the Saxon wool-grower in the home market, notwithstanding that they have a protective duty in their favour of a penny per pound, I do not think we ought to invite immigrants to the country, but that on the contrary, we ought to prepare to pack up our goods and abandon it, as a concern that is worthless. For the rent or use of the land on which the fleece is produced, the Australian wool-grower pays less than 2*d.* per annum; and supposing it to weigh two and a half pounds, he has in the English market an advantage over the Saxon wool-grower of 2¼*d.* on the same fleece, in the shape of a protective duty; yet it is said, that he cannot compete with the Saxon; if such be the case, it must be clear, at any rate, that the minimum price of land in Australia can have nothing to do with it.

It is well known to you all, gentlemen, that I have never myself advocated a very high minimum price. What I have always laboured to establish, is, that the distinction should be well preserved between the minimum price and the upset price. I think the Government should abstain from bringing large quantities of land into the market, and that the upset price of all land should be regulated by what was the last selling price of land in the same locality, or of equal value; and if this principle were steadily acted upon, it would be of little importance what the minimum might be. A minimum price, however, has the effect of relieving the Government from the inconvenient pressure which would without it be felt, so long as the present erroneous views respecting the sale of land prevail in the colony. Public opinion is in favour of a low price; the officers of the Government, as members of the public, and partaking of the feelings of the public, are in favour of a low price; and under such circumstances, I esteem it fortunate, that the Parliament of Great Britain is about to take out of my hands a discretionary power, which I cannot exercise in a manner to satisfy my own conscience, or in the way which I verily believe to be most advantageous to the public, without placing myself in opposition to the wishes of the colonists, and being obliged constantly to overrule the opinions of those officers, upon whose assistance and cordial co-operation I must mainly rely in carrying on the business of Government. I have no doubt that the increase in the minimum price will ultimately be found beneficial. When the price was raised in 1839, from 5s. to 12s., the quantity sold decreased, but the amount of money received did not. About 80,000 acres of land were sold less in 1839 than in 1838, but the money received was 10,000*l.* more; and in 1840 the quantity again decreased by 108,000 acres, whilst the money again increased by 10,000*l.*; and these numbers and sums have reference only to the old parts of the colony.* Still it will be said that these were years of speculation, and I acknowledge that they were.

I do not expect that we shall sell much land during the next two or three years; neither should we sell much, even though the price were to be reduced to five shillings; but after a time we shall sell again, for land is wanted for other purposes besides the feeding of sheep; and the land which we do not sell, we may, in the mean time, in some other way turn to profit. What, I confess, most surprises me, is to find the great landed proprietors in the

* That is to say, exclusive of Port Phillip. *See* Note (B.), p. 157.

colony

colony opposed to the rise in the minimum price, the tendency of it undoubtedly being to increase the value of their own lands. Whilst I cannot compliment them on their clear-sightedness, I must at any rate honour their patriotism, for their opposition to it can be founded upon no other ground than that of apprehension for the public good.

I now come to the point on which I differ more widely than on any other from the Report of the Committee,—I mean the opinion expressed in it, and still more strongly repeated in the seventh of the Resolutions now before the Council, that some part of the present depression is to be attributed to our having sent out of the colony large sums of money in payment for immigrants—by money meaning capital, the words being used synonymously. "During the last five years," says the Resolution, "no less than 45,544 souls have been introduced, at a cost to the colony of 629,640*l.*, exclusively raised within itself, and remitted to the United Kingdom.

Exclusively raised within the colony, but in what manner raised?—Not raised by the industry of the colonists, nor produced by traffic in it; but raised by the sale of land, and principally of unimproved land. What we have given in payment for immigrants is land, and that land we have assuredly not sent out of the colony. We have received in exchange for our land English capital, and that capital has been remitted to us in the shape of immigrants. "So vast an effort for so infant a community," the Resolution goes on to say, "could not fail to produce considerable exhaustion, nor be made without leading to a serious state of depression." Now, if we had created this land by any effort of our own, we might reasonably be expected to feel exhausted after it; but all that we have done in respect to the land has been to measure it, and bring it to sale. Moreover, some portion of it has been sold in London, and the price of it remitted to us directly in the shape of emigrants; in such an operation no one, I think, can maintain that there is any sending of capital out of the colony, and yet the effect produced would have been the same if every acre had been sold in London. The operation is precisely that of giving land for immigrants, and is just the same (in regard to the point at issue) as if we had given a number of acres of land to each emigrant arriving in the colony, varying according to the age or sex of each.

This may be again clearly exemplified by taking the case of naval or military settlers, who are, in fact, only immigrants of a superior or a favoured class. Formerly we gave to each officer, according to his rank or length of service, a quantity of land varying from 400 to 1,200 acres; and so long as we did this, no one supposed that there was any sending of capital out of the country. Now, instead of allowing the officer to select a given quantity of land, we allow him to obtain gratuitously a quantity, which is determined, not by the number of acres it contains, but by another measure of value; no money, however, passes between the parties, and no one, I believe, supposes that there is any sending of capital out of the country. The only difference in the case of ordinary immigrants is, that in order to avoid the inconvenience of giving land to the actual immigrants, we allow the intervention of third parties, and instead of absolutely bartering land for immigrants, we make use of the common medium with which all transactions beyond those of simple barter are conducted, namely, money. Let us suppose one hundred persons ready to come from England to New South Wales, and that in consideration of their coming to settle amongst us, we are to give amongst them two thousand acres of land; the most simple plan would be to let each of the hundred find his own way to the colony, and to give to each on his arrival his own proportion of the land, that is to say, twenty acres; the next simplest way of doing it would be for the hundred persons on the one side, and the Government on the other, to make a bargain with a third party, who should receive the whole two thousand acres in return for the trouble and expense of bringing the hundred persons to the colony; this would be a case of simple barter, and would in principle be just the same as if the Government had bartered its land for a cargo of horses or for a steam-engine; though, had the things imported been horses or steam-engines, it would have been clear to every body that there was capital imported, and none whatever exported. Advancing, however, a few steps beyond such primitive methods of doing business, the Government now gives its land to persons who give in exchange for it bits of paper, and gives these same bits of paper (or other equivalent pieces) to other persons, who bring the immigrants to the colony; but, notwithstanding this roundabout method of proceeding, what the Government really gives for the immigrants is still land, and it assuredly does not send that land out of the colony. This explanation must, I think, suffice to show that whether the land be sold in England or in the colony, so long as the money which is paid for the passage of the immigrants be supplied from England, there can be no sending of capital out of the country. But it may, perhaps be argued that the case is different when the land is sold, not to a newly-arrived immigrant, bringing money with him from England, but to a person long settled in the colony. It may be said that such an old settler pays for the land with money produced by his own industry, and that such money is part of the capital of the colony, or that he pays for it by the sale of his wool, and that as the wool is exported, capital is sent out of the colony. But here I must observe that the wool would be sent out of the country at any rate, and that it is desirable it should be sent out; the more capital of this description which we can send out of the colony the better; the export does not impoverish, but tends to enrich us. If the settler who is supposed to have sold the wool, and invested the proceeds of it in land, had, instead of buying land with it, kept the money in his pocket, or lodged it securely in some place where he could any day put his hand upon it, it would indeed have been better for him, as by having the money in reserve he might have been able to hold out against a season of depression, like that under which the colony is now labouring; but the acknowledgment of this only goes to strengthen the argument I hold, that our distress is owing

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to persons having engaged too readily in speculations of all sorts, including, of course, amongst the rest, speculations in land; but the hypothesis under which I am arguing is that the settler did buy land with the money derived from the sale of his wool, and the only question is, whether after having done so, and thus given his money to the Government, it was or was not for the advantage of the colony that the Government should spend it in the purchase of immigrants. It is allowed that immigrants were wanted, but it is said that the Government should have kept the settler's money, and paid for immigrants with other money, which it might have borrowed in England. Now, what would have been the result if the Government had so done? Why, first, that the balances of Government at the different banks would have been increased; and, secondly, that the import of capital, that is to say, goods of every description, from England would have been increased, and consequently the mania of speculation which has brought the colony to its present depressed state must have been also increased; that, in fact, every evil which has afflicted the colony must have been aggravated.

The whole controversy, supposing it to be a controversy, may be reduced to this question: Has or has not capital come into the colony too rapidly? I maintain that between the years 1835 and 1840 it did come in too rapidly—more rapidly, that is to say, than it could be profitably employed; and that, consequently, large portions of it have been lost. The effect of paying for the passage of the emigrants out of the proceeds of the sale of lands has been to reduce *pro tanto* the quantity of capital coming into the colony, and consequently, *pro tanto*, to reduce the evils arising out of the excessive importation of capital. If the passage of the immigrants had been paid for by money borrowed in England, more capital must have come to the colony in the shape of goods, and so much more capital must have been lost. The balance of trade, as it is called, or, in other words, the excess of imports over exports, having been notoriously very great during the last few years, it seems to me scarcely possible that any evil can have arisen to the community during the same years from the exportation of capital. In any country where the value of imports greatly exceeds the value of exports, one of two things must be in the course of fulfilment: the country must be increasing in riches, or it must be contracting a debt; it may, however, be doing both things at once, and this is what, I believe, we have been doing in New South Wales. The capital of the colony is rapidly increasing, but a large portion of it is only lent to the colony by England, and has come in the baneful shape of money, seeking for usurious interest, which it will by-and-bye take a large proportion of the wool of Australia to pay. A colony like New South Wales can, indeed, bear every year a considerable excess of imports over exports without suffering inconvenience: first, because the home Government has to remit to the colony every year nearly 300,000*l.* for the maintenance of its military and convict establishments; and secondly, because there is (exclusive of money belonging to loan and trust companies) a great quantity of capital yearly pouring into the colony for the purpose of permanent investment in it—capital, that is to say, of which the owners come with it. An excess, therefore, of imports over exports to the value of perhaps 500,000*l.* a year would not entail upon us any heavy debt to England; but during the few last years the balance of trade, as it is called, has been more than that against us, and it is not to be denied that we have during this time been contracting a debt to England—a debt which exists principally in the capital of our English banks and loan companies, but also to a considerable extent in private mortgages.

I come, therefore, to the conclusion that in all cases in which the money spent on the importation of immigrants has been the produce of English capital given in exchange for our lands, there has been no exportation of capital whatsoever, and that, even where the money taken in payment for our lands has come to us from old settlers, such money must either have been English capital too, or it must have been produced by the sale of a description of colonial capital, which it was desirable to export, and the exportation of which does not tend to impoverish, but to enrich us.

The exchange of wool or any other colonial produce, for immigrants, would indeed be hurtful to us, if it were carried to such an extent as to prevent our receiving other articles of which we stand in need, as, for instance, British merchandize of every description, machines, furniture, building materials, tea, sugar, wheat, flour, &c. &c. But have we any reason to complain that these articles have not come into the colony in sufficient abundance? On the contrary, is it not beyond dispute, that they have come a vast deal too fast upon us? Have I not already shown that the present panic is mainly to be attributed to the fact of their having come to us so much faster than we wanted them, that very large proportions of them were actually wasted and lost? It certainly might be possible for a colony to labour under the opposite evils, at the same time, of both importing and exporting too much capital; but then the capital exported must consist of some articles which it would be desirable to retain in the colony. If, for instance, whilst we were importing articles of luxury—carriages, bottled ale and champagne, or, still worse, large quantities of poison in the shape of spirituous liquors—we had been forced to export any article essential to our own sustenance or comfort, in order to pay for them, we should certainly have been acting disadvantageously (and it must be indeed disadvantageous to import such articles under any circumstances); but so long as we send out of the colony articles only which it is desirable to export, and get, in return for them, immigrants, of whom we stand in the greatest need, it does not appear to me that we are making any effort that ought to lead to exhaustion.

That individuals, indeed, have exhausted themselves by buying articles which they did not want, and land amongst the rest, I can hardly perhaps too often repeat, but this was the consequence

consequence of the mania for speculation which existed during the years from 1835 to 1840; which mania itself arose, not from the sending out, but from the pouring in, of capital; the same thing would have happened had Government hoarded its money, instead of spending it: and it would have been far worse had Government sold its land, not for ready money but on credit. The wisest thing for the Government to have done would perhaps have been to have refused to sell land at all; but gentlemen will, perhaps, remember the complaints which were made against me by the people of Port Phillip, for not, as they thought, bringing land fast enough to market.

As it is, capital to the amount of 800,000*l.* has been introduced into the colony in the shape of immigrants, the most advantageous form in which it can come, instead of coming in some other shape in which capital was not wanted. Immigrants of the labouring class are, in fact, in New South Wales, to be regarded as capital: they are frequently, indeed, designated as "labour," but erroneously. They are the substances out of which labour may be extracted, and so is a steam-engine; but nobody calls a steam-engine labour, neither are horses or elephants called labour.

It may seem paradoxical, but I believe it true, that it is not desirable for any government to have more money at its command than is required for its current services. I believe that far more of the evil which this colony has suffered is to be attributed to our having hoarded money between 1832 and 1838, than to our having spent it since 1838. I often thank God that the money is gone; for I now have a ready answer for every person who comes to ask me to engage in expensive undertakings, which I had not, so long as we had large balances at the bank. Old Frederick of Prussia, a despotic monarch, saved money for his son; but that son shot it all away in gunpowder, in making war upon his neighbours; as the Lord Bishop remarked not long ago, that our own national debt was shot away, or rather, the borrowed money which caused the debt. We have shot away a good deal of our borrowed money, not in gunpowder, indeed, but in champagne.

But to revert to the important point at issue—How are we to get money to pay for the importation of immigrants? The first thing to be done is, I answer, to reduce the expences of government; and if the council will but go hand in hand with me, I doubt not that much may be done in this way; but what, as yet, have you done, gentlemen? At the commencement of the present session I introduced two measures, calculated to lessen the expences of government, and which, had they been passed as I presented them, would, I firmly believe, have had the effect, in a few years, if not immediately, of enabling us to apply to immigration every shilling of the revenue which is in any way derived from land; that is to say, not only the produce of the sale of lands, but quit-rents, ordinary rents, and also the produce of licences to depasture stock beyond the boundaries of location; but of these measures, one (the Police and Public Works Bill) was absolutely and entirely rejected; the other (the Corporation Bill) was only passed by accompanying it with a bribe of between 70,000*l.* and 80,000*l.* to the people of Sydney and Melbourne.

I am determined, however, to persevere in the most rigid economy; and still endeavour, if possible, to apply the whole of the money derived, in any shape, from land, to the purposes of immigration; and until this shall have been done, or at least until the attempt shall have been made, I do not think we ought to have recourse to a loan, even if it were in our power to get one. The proposal to apply to the purposes of immigration the whole of the money derived, in any shape, from land, is not so chimerical as many may suppose. This colony has been accused of applying to other purposes than those of immigration large portions of its land fund; but it may surprise the persons by whom these accusations have been put forth, to learn, that, of the whole amount derived from the sale of land, since the system of selling land first began in 1832, more than 87 per cent. has been spent on immigration, and that a vast deal more than the remaining 13 per cent. has been expended in the survey and sale of the land, and in the protection of the aborigines,—objects which are allowed to form charges on the land fund, even prior to that of immigration itself. It is not true, therefore, that the colony of New South Wales has applied any portion whatever of its land fund to purposes, the expence of which ought to be defrayed out of its ordinary revenue; and it is much, I think, to be desired, that the groundlessness of the charge which has been made against the colony should be exposed.* I have always contended, that the expense of the survey and sale of land, and also that incurred for the protection and civilization of the aborigines, are legitimate charges on the land fund; but am free also to contend, that if the exigencies of the colony be such as to require the expenditure of the whole land fund on immigration, it is quite legitimate, also, to defray such expenses out of the ordinary revenue. So long as we had a large and even superabundant land fund, it was proper to defray the expenses in question out of that fund, especially as our ordinary revenue was not then able to bear them; but circumstances having changed, our land fund having ceased to be productive, whilst our ordinary revenue has greatly increased, a different state of things has arisen, justifying, and even calling for, a different arrangement.

And here I must observe that, though I do not reckon on selling much land during the next two or three years, neither do I look on the land fund as by any means extinct. As soon as the present panic shall have passed away, and the futility be proved of any attempt to reduce the minimum price of land, when people, in fact, become thoroughly persuaded that a high price will be maintained, then will they begin again to buy readily enough, and

* *See* Note (C.), p. 157.

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at prices too above 20s. an acre. I do not say they will do this for mere grasing purposes; but wherever grasing and other pursuits of industry can be combined, there we shall sell land; in less quantities, certainly, than before, but, realising, perchance, more money. And where land cannot be sold, it must be rented; the rents of all government lands must be rigidly collected, as, above all others, must the quit-rents. At the present moment we are paying interest on debentures at eight per cent., when nearly as much money is due to us for quit-rents as would enable us to pay them off. This state of things must not continue; the government cannot allow it. It is not just to those who regularly pay their quit-rents; and still less just to those who have redeemed their quit-rents, to allow these debts to remain outstanding.

Until all other means of providing money for the purposes of immigration shall have been tried, and the insufficiency of them proved, I must declare that I cannot, in the conscientious discharge of my own sworn duty to Her Majesty and to the people of this country, advise Her Majesty's Government to authorize the raising of any larger loan for the service of this colony than may be necessary to equalize, from year to year, the supply of immigrants, so as to relieve the local government, as far as possible, from the inconvenience of uncertainty in respect to the number of immigrants to be expected in any year.

I do not say, gentlemen, nor have I ever said, that I am absolutely opposed to a loan. Should the capital of the country go on increasing, and should we still sell no land, I think a loan would be justifiable; because, as I have already said, the want of labour is proportioned to the increase of capital, of which increase the sale of land is no criterion. Under the squatting system, it cannot be contended that the sale of land is any measure of the want of labour, and the squatting system has been so extended as to have become the system of the colony. But when we talk of a loan, it is essential to bear in mind, that there must be two parties to it—there must be a lender as well as a borrower, and where is this colony to look to for a lender? As to borrowing to any extent in the colony, at the exorbitant interest which is now demanded for money, it must be out of the question; and, though I have no doubt that interest must come down, until it bear a natural proportion to the rate of profit in the colony, I doubt whether it will, for a number of years, come down to five or even six per cent.; and to borrow money at any rate of interest beyond five per cent. would hardly be advisable under any circumstances. We must, therefore, look to the English capitalist; and what inducements have we to offer to him? Is it the way to induce him to lend us money to be constantly crying out that we are ruined; that things are come to such a pass, that it is absolutely better to be without property than to have it? Do we take the proper means to induce people to lend us their money, when we declare, day after day, that we cannot compete in the English market with the Saxon wool grower, notwithstanding we depasture our flocks upon Crown land, at only a nominal rent, and have a protection in the shape of a discriminating duty of a penny on every pound of our wool? Whether from the inferiority of the soil, or from the inferiority of the people, we do not say; but we declare that we cannot do it. Are statements such as these, I will ask, likely to induce people to lend us their money;—put forth, moreover, as they are, not by the ignorant multitude, who take their impressions from the events of the moment—not merely by newspaper correspondents or periodical writers—but gravely announced in this council by the sages of the land? I apprehend that the capitalists of England will not be very ready to lend us their money so long as this strain be continued. But it will be said, that the guarantee of the Home Government may be obtained, and that then every thing will go on smoothly. I grant that the guarantee of the Home Government may be obtained, and, if absolutely necessary, I trust that it will; but again let me ask, do we go the right way to obtain it or any other assistance from the Home Government? Can we expect the Home Government to be very ready to give us their assistance, when every thing they do or attempt to do for us is construed into evil? No matter whether it be Lord Glenelg, Lord John Russell, or Lord Stanley that is in office, every thing done is denounced as injurious to the colony, and even as intended to injure it; when it is stated, as it was no longer ago than yesterday in this council, that there is some sinister influence at work behind the scenes, some deep design to bring this colony to ruin, and that the government lends a willing ear to the designers!

I will not say that the statesmen whose names I have mentioned, or any one of them, would refuse to lend us assistance, because what they have hitherto done for us has been thanklessly received; but I must say, that we do not take the most courteous means of inducing them to help us. Secretaries of State are undoubtedly liable to error, like other mortals; and it has been my duty to point out some errors which have been committed in respect to this colony; but I am, nevertheless, as sincerely convinced as I am of any article of my faith, that nothing affecting the colony has been done at England from any other motive than a sincere desire to advance its prosperity in every way that is consistent with a due regard to the interests of other portions of the empire.

To return, however, to the question of a loan. It will naturally be asked, what security have we to give? I believe that we have very ample security—that the unsold lands of the colony, if properly administered, furnish as ample security as any one can desire; but then comes the question, how should they be administered? and this brings me to the plan of which the outline has been developed by the Lord Bishop.

I greatly regret that I cannot go the whole way with his Lordship; that in fact I can only go a little way with him; and the sincerity with which I regret this will not be doubted by those who know that it is from the Bishop alone I have received any support in the views which I take of the minimum price. I go along with his Lordship in thinking

that the lands beyond the boundaries, or the lands now occupied by the squatters, are the sources from which the revenue may be drawn equal to all our wants; and I agree with his lordship also in thinking that, in order to draw a larger revenue from these lands, some alterations may be advantageously made in the tenure by which they are now held, and that some security should at least be given to the squatter for the value of the improvements which he may make upon them, since it must always be the interest of the landlord to have his land improved, whether the landlord be the Queen, or any private individual; but in the details of his plan I am forced to differ from his lordship, because those details involve a vast number of conditions, the observance of which experience forbids me to expect the Government would ever be able to enforce; and a vast number, too, of deferred payments, which I fear the Government would never be able to collect.

It should be borne in mind that the grants, which are called free or gratuitous in this colony, were not professedly gratuitous when they were made; that they involved a variety of conditions, such as those of settlement, cultivation, and payment of quit-rents, and in many cases of other deferred payments, which the Government has in very few instances been able to enforce. I will ask the Colonial Secretary and the Auditor-General, who are here present, what the experience of Government is in respect to these deferred payments? Why, that even the quit-rents are collected with the greatest difficulty, and at an expense which makes it hardly worth while to collect them, notwithstanding that the security for their due payment is as ample as any that can be shown by the proprietor of Belgrave-square for the payment of his ground rents. And if such be the case in respect to quit-rents and of other rents, such as those, for instance, of the leases granted in the time of Sir Thomas Brisbane, all of which are due on lands situated in the older parts of the colony, and comparatively near the seat of government, how much more difficult would it be to collect dues arising out of lands situate hundreds of miles off, extending from Darling Downs to the Bogan, and from the Bogan to Corner Inlet. Any government that attempted to enforce deferred payments of this nature would certainly be defeated; the whole strength of the colony would be arrayed against it. For these reasons, therefore, I think no dependence is to be placed on a revenue to be raised by deferred payments, or, in other words, out of lands sold or given on credit. The only sure system which the Government can go on is that of sale for ready money. I beg also very distinctly to state, that I held these opinions long before I had any knowledge of an Act of Parliament, which, there is every reason to suppose, has already passed, and which, if passed, must entirely prevent the carrying into effect of the plans of the Lord Bishop. The proposed Act of Parliament is not confined to the fixing of a minimum price below which no land shall be sold; there are other provisions in it, such as, first, that all land shall be sold by auction; secondly, that it shall be sold only for ready money; and, thirdly, that no land shall be let on lease for any period longer than 12 months. It will scarcely, therefore, be prudent to rest our hopes on a plan which proceeds on principles directly opposed to such an Act of Parliament. But the Act of Parliament, it may be said, will be repealed. So it will, I have no doubt, if, after a fair trial, it be found to work badly; but I am equally certain that it will be allowed a fair trial; and for such a trial I do not think that four, five, or even six years will be considered too long a period; and that, consequently, even allowing the Act to be an injudicious one (which I am very far from thinking it), it would be most imprudent in us to rely upon any scheme which cannot be carried into effect whilst the Act remains in force.

Before I conclude, I must say a few words more respecting the squatters.

It has been said that I am the enemy of the squatters, and that I am bent on destroying the squatting interest. Now, although squatting did not owe its origin to me, I may safely say that I have been the best friend to the squatters that they ever had, and I believe I may add, I was the first person to point out to the Home Government, which I did in my despatch of the 19th of December 1840, the vast importance of the squatting interest to this colony. I am and always have been the advocate of squatting, but I do not advocate the putting of the squatter on a par with the purchaser of crown land. To do this would be effectually to nullify all the regulations which have been introduced for the disposal or sale of land, since land began to be of any value in the colony; and if I could even so far forget my own duty as to allow the person who may be the first to seize on any quantity of crown land to become the virtual proprietor of it, there are other and superior authorities who will not allow their regulations to be so evaded.

So obviously does the squatting system act to prevent the sale of crown lands, that the late Secretary of State, in a despatch which has been laid before the council*, pointed out the propriety of raising the price of a licence to depasture stock beyond the boundaries to five or six times its present amount. Nor was his Lordship prompted to this by any communication from New South Wales beyond a simple narration of facts. It scarcely appears to me that we can go at present as far as his Lordship's suggestion would lead us; but I am satisfied that whilst it is desirable, on the one hand, to improve the tenure of the squatter in every way in which it can be done without indisposing him to become a purchaser of land, so we must, on the other, as soon as the present despondency shall have passed away, make several important alterations in respect to squatting licenses. The opportunity may, if possible, be afforded to the squatter of purchasing as a homestead some moderate portion of the land which he occupies, without forcing him to take a quan-

* Dated 20th June 1841.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Speech of Sir George Gipps.

9th Sept. 1842.

tity, which, at the present high minimum price, his means might not enable him to pay for; such purchase, however, must be at auction (so long as the contemplated Act of Parliament remains in force), and for ready money. On the other hand, every station must be separately licensed (which is not the case at present), and the quantity of land held under any single license must not exceed what may be necessary for a given number of sheep or oxen. In fact, licenses must be more nearly assimilated to leases than they now are, and the occupation of any land without lease or license (whether within or without the boundaries) must be most strictly prohibited.

The practice which is growing up of forming stations only for the purpose of selling them must be prohibited also; and I am very much disposed to think that a person who may form a station without the previous permission of the Government must in no case whatever be allowed to retain it. The formation of stations without the permission of Government is the principal cause of those atrocities, whether committed by or on the aborigines, which bring discredit on the whole colony, and render necessary the maintenance of an expensive police force, even in the uttermost parts of the wilderness.

I have already spoken of the difficulty with which the rights of the Crown, and even its most unquestioned rights, can be enforced at great distances from the seat of Government, if ever suffered to fall into abeyance, or if the assertion of them be deferred. I will, in conclusion, only on this head remind the council of an instance which occurred but as yesterday—the first and only instance in which I have exercised the undoubted right of refusing to renew a license. What then occurred has acted, I may say, on me as a warning (and it will be, I trust, a warning to all future Governors) of the necessity of proceeding with great firmness, but, at the same time, with great caution, in the administration of the lands which form in this colony the domain of the Crown.

Note (A.)

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the QUANTITY of SPECIE in the Colony of *New South Wales*, in the First Quarter of the Year 1841, and in the Second Quarter of 1842.

	Quarter ending 31st March 1841.	Quarter ending 30th June 1842.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
In the several banks at Sydney and Melbourne	342,137 11 5	488,865 9 1
In the military chest	32,769 19 2	
In the Colonial Treasury	38,900 – –	
TOTAL £	413,807 10 7	488,865 9 1

The quantity of coin in the possession of private individuals cannot be correctly ascertained; but on account of the sums brought in by immigrants, it must have been more in 1842 than in 1841.

RETURN of the AMOUNT of DEPOSITS in the BANKS of the Colony (collectively), during the First Quarter of the Year 1841, and the Second Quarter of 1842.

	Quarter ending 31st March 1841.	Quarter ending 30th June 1842.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total amount of the average deposits, as given in the bank returns, made under the Act of Council, 4 Vict. No. 13	1,123,636 14 1	965,785 14 4
Deduct government deposits, belonging to the military chest and colonial treasury	262,036 – –	65,891 – –
Deposits of individuals £	861,600 14 1	899,894 14 4

Note

Note (B.)

RETURN of LAND sold in the Colony of NEW SOUTH WALES, in the Years 1838, 1839, and 1840.

N. B.—The minimum price was raised from 5*s.* to 12*s.* in 1839.

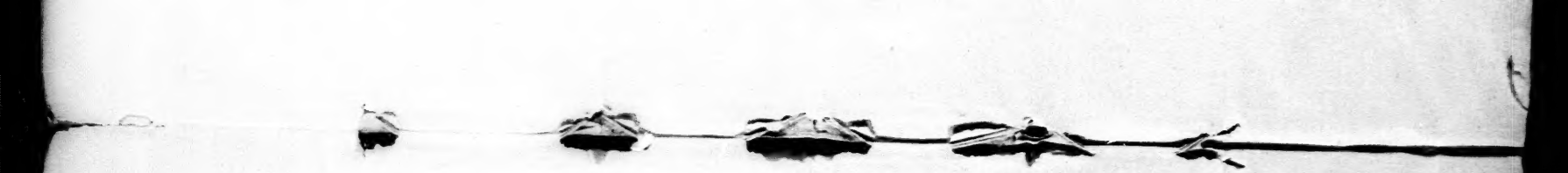
	Years.	COUNTRY LANDS.			TOWN ALLOTMENTS.			COUNTRY LANDS AND TOWN ALLOTMENTS.		
		Acres.	Price per Acre.	Sum.	Acres.	Price per Acre.	Sum.	Acres.	Price per Acre.	Sum.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Old Parts of the Colony.	1838	278,323	– 5 4½	75,159 5 11	185 3 26	17 7 4	3,228 13 5	278,509	– 5 7½	78,387 19 4
	1839	196,198	– 8 1½	80,836 7 5	231 0 22	29 – 11½	6,714 2 3	198,429	– 8 9½	87,550 9 8
	1840	94,878	– 18 1½	62,360 5 10	513 1 25	69 3 7½	35,518 13 9	95,391	1 – 6½	97,878 19 7
Port Phillip.	1838	38,655	– 13 3	25,587 17 9	41 1 12	213 11 7½	8,826 5 4	38,694	– 17 9½	34,414 3 1
	1839	38,285	1 11 11	61,102 14 6	65 1 8	137 19 –	9,008 2 8	38,348	1 16 6½	70,110 17 2
	1840	89,729	1 12 11	136,367 15 8	169 2 16	487 16 2	89,732 10 –	89,899	2 12 10	219,100 5 8

Note (C.)

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the LAND FUND of NEW SOUTH WALES, from 1832 to 1842.

	£	s.	d.
Gross proceeds of the sales of land, of every description, from the beginning of the Year 1832 up to the present time - - - - - -	1,090,583	17	2
Amount actually paid during the same period, on account of immigration into the colony from the United Kingdom * - - - - - -	951,241	17	4
Difference - - -	£ 139,341	19	10

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount paid within the same period on account of the survey of land, and the expense of bringing it to sale - -	198,417	17	11			
Amount expended during the same period on the protection and civilization of the Aborigines - - -	63,097	2	–			
				261,514	19	1
Excess in expenditure over receipts, or the amount which has been paid out of the ordinary revenue of the colony - - - -				£ 122,173	–	1

Compiled from a Return by the Auditor-general of the colony, dated September 7, 1842.

* Being more than 87 per cent. of the whole amount received.